Bennett • Cafaro • Prianto • Peteri

WITCHBLADE®

image

19
MAR

DIGITAL EDITION
US

TOP COW UNIVERSE

WITCHBLADE®

created by **Marc Silvestri**, **David Wohl**, **Brian Haberlin** & **Michael Turner**

New York City Police Detective Sara Pezzini's life was forever fractured by her father's murder. Cold, cunning, and hellbent on revenge, Sara now stalks a vicious criminal cabal beneath the city. During a brutal warehouse massacre, Sara bonded with the Witchblade, an ancient weapon that transformed her into something wild, magnificent, and beyond her darkest imaginings.

Previously... New York City Police Detective Sara Pezzini's dive into the world of the supernatural began with the search into the cover-up that destroyed her father. Along the way, she bonded with an ancient weapon known as the Witchblade, which, following recent events, has gone through a new transformation, bound by the powers of darkness and light, becoming something new that hangs in the balance. For weeks, the city had been on the edge of erupting as the vigilante supernatural serial killer known as Grinteeth was revealed to Sara to be Anna, a survivor of human trafficking, who took it upon herself to punish the wicked using the power from the severed hand of an Angelus being. Sara had struggled to bring Anna back into the light, but after a fierce battle, Anna ended the curse she had cast by ending her own life. Shaken by the events, Sara and her friend Lisa discussed power, faith, and the legends surrounding the Witchblade itself. To blow off some steam, Sara takes a moment to relax in a local bar where she meets a green-haired woman with an unusual tattoo, who offers to buy her a drink. This is the next day.

"Midnight City"

Written by **Marguerite Bennett**
Line art by **Giuseppe Cafaro**
Colors by **Arif Prianto** • Letters by **Troy Peteri**
Edits by **Marc Silvestri**, **Matt Hawkins** and **Ryan Cady**

Cover A: **Giuseppe Cafaro** and **Arif Prianto**
Cover B, C (Virgin), D (Virgin/Line), and Top Cow Store Spot Foil Exclusive:
Ed Benes, **Richard Friend**, and **Gibran Ferdian**
Cover E, *Invincible* Team-Up Variant: **Giuseppe Cafaro** and **Steve Firchow**

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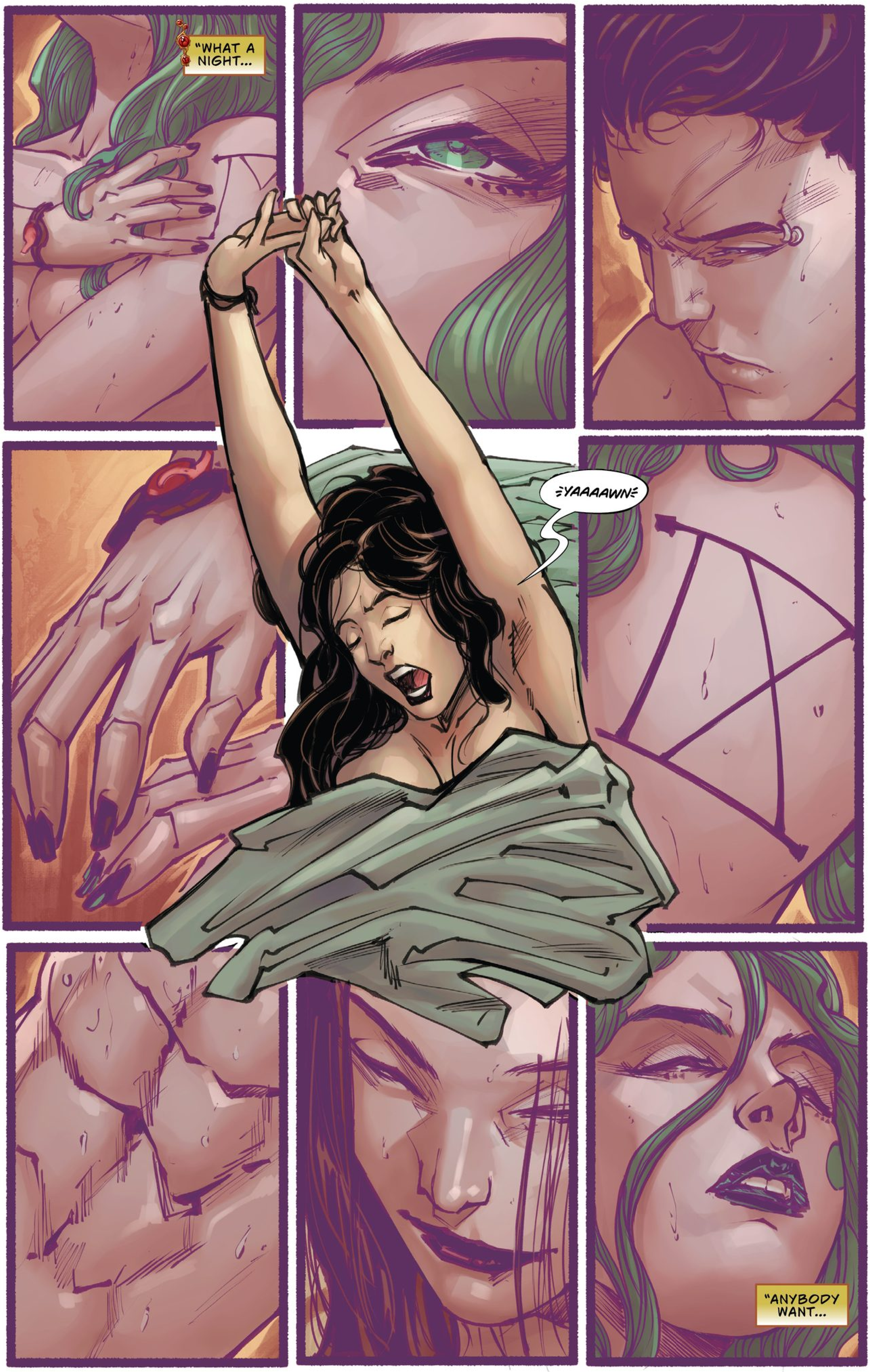
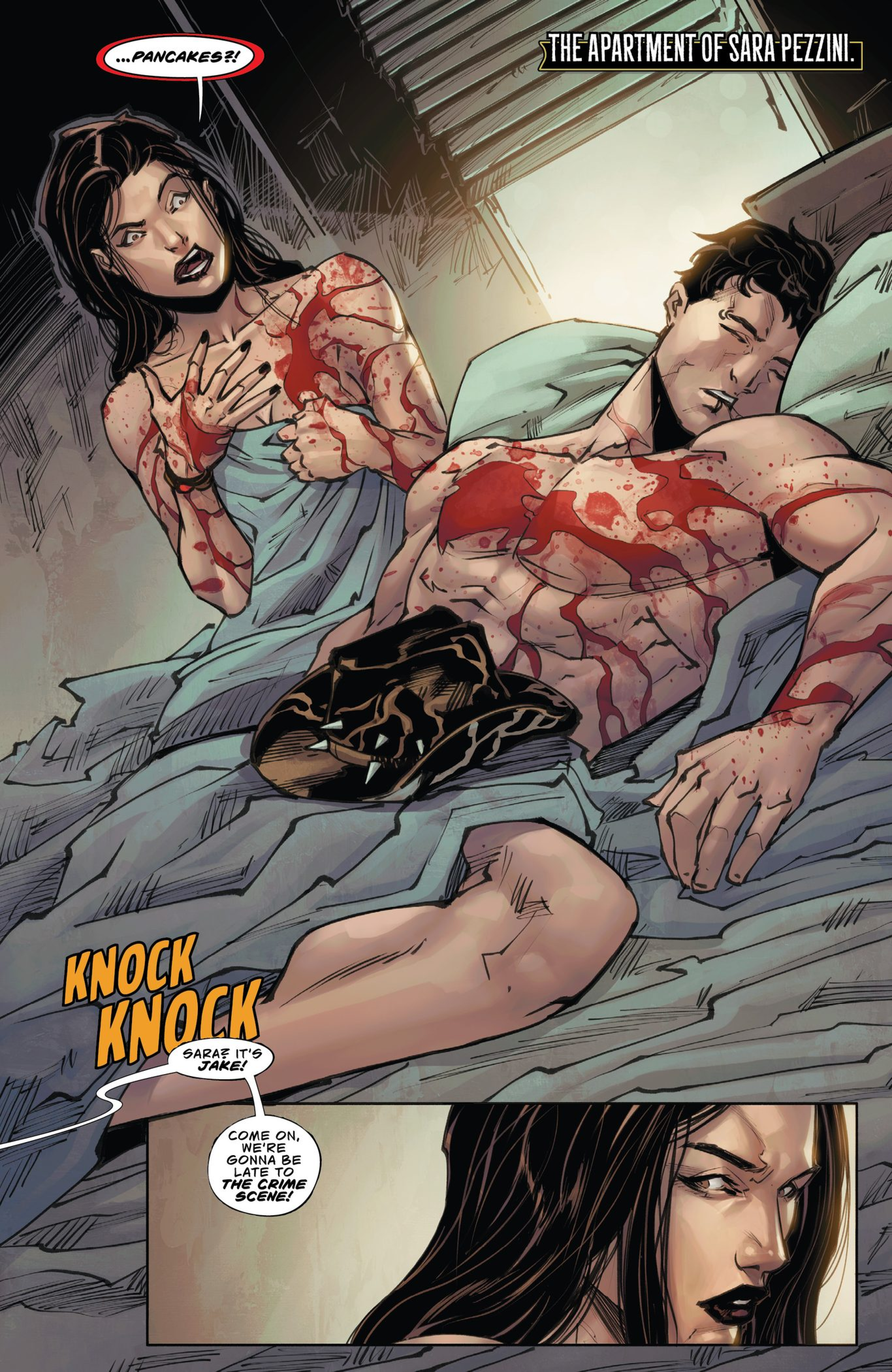
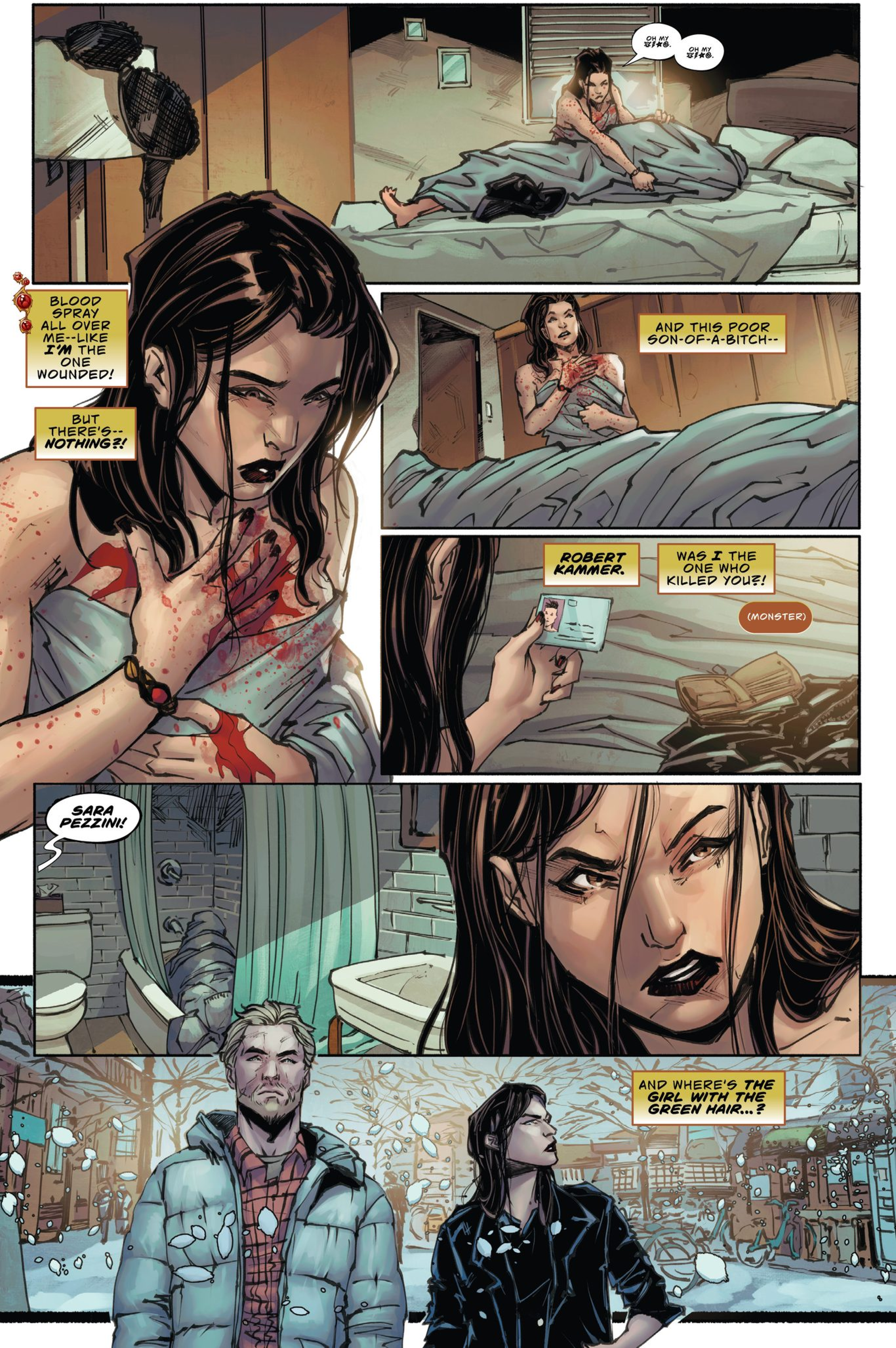
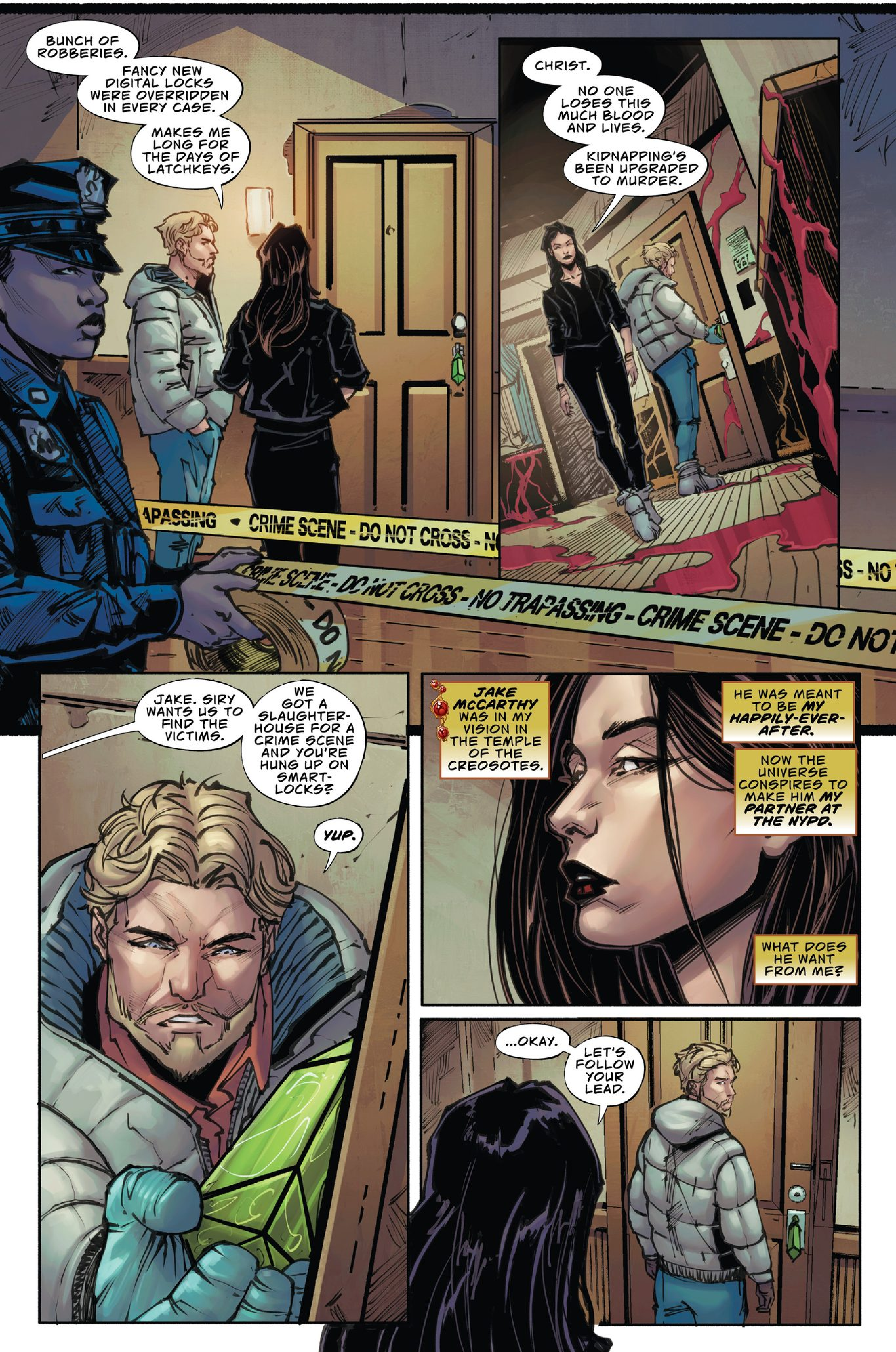
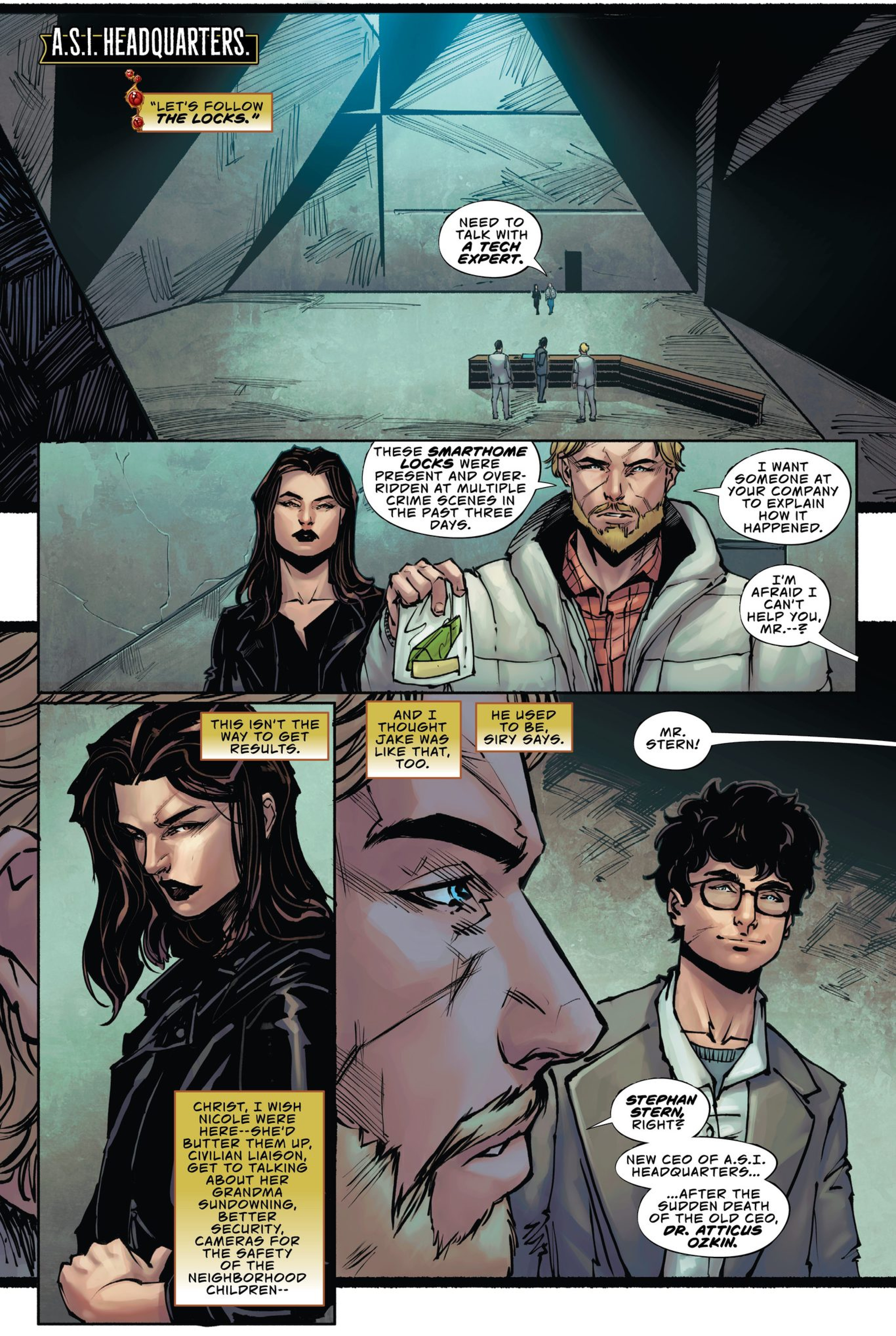
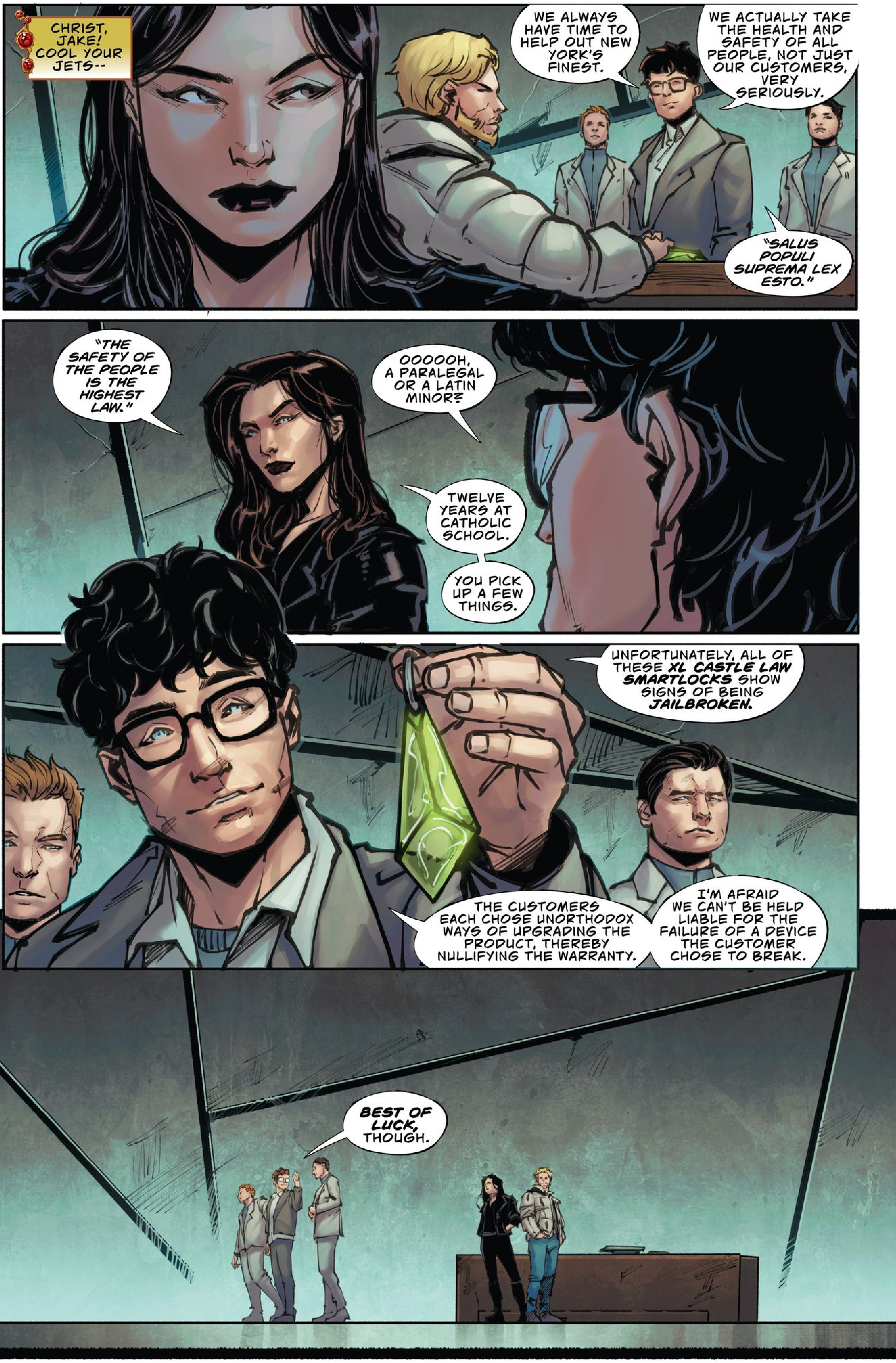

"WHAT A NIGHT...
YAAAAWN
"ANYBODY WANT...

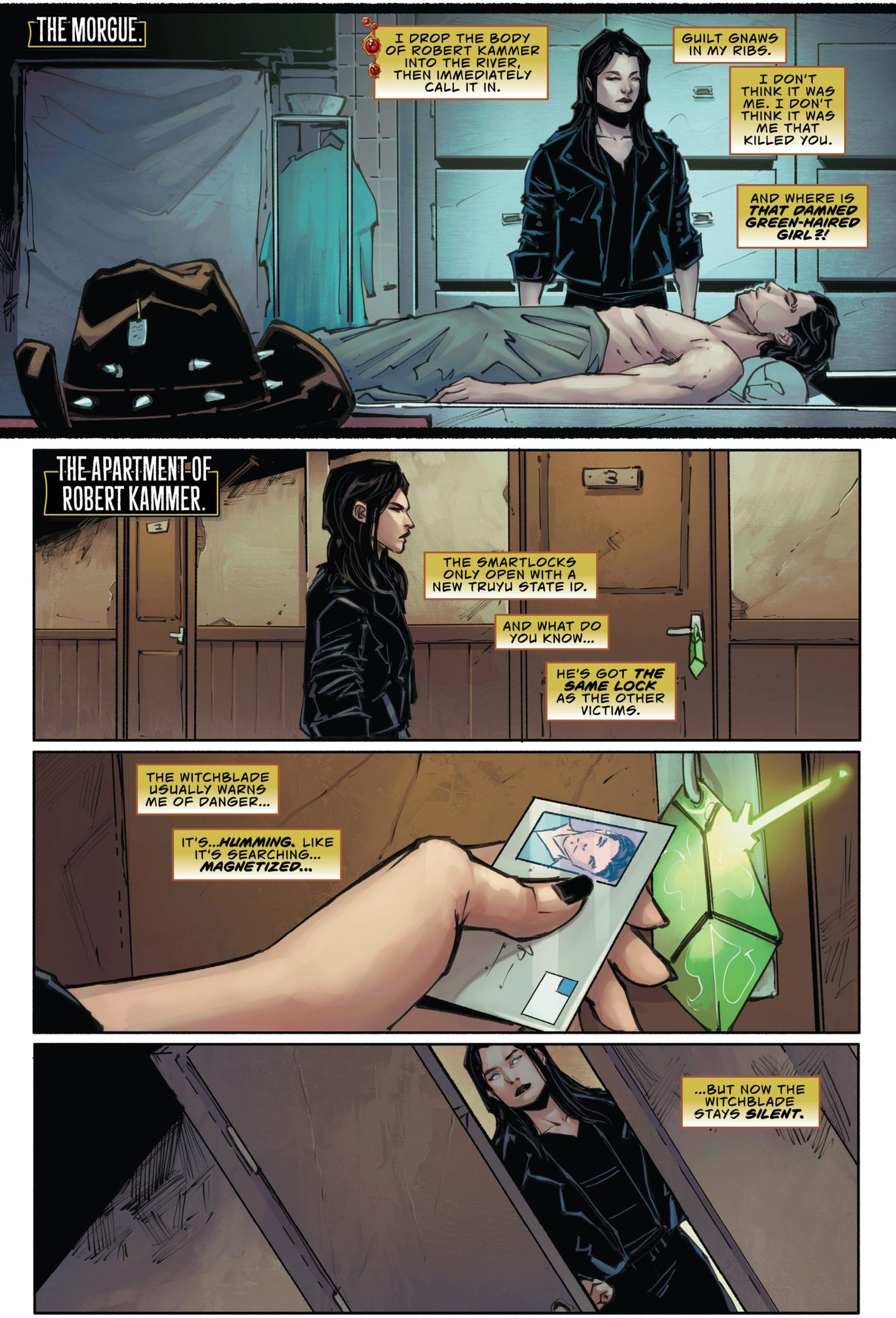

THE APARTMENT OF SARA PEZZINI.
...PANCAKES?!
KNOCK KNOCK
SARA? IT'S JAKE!
COME ON, WE'RE GONNA BE LATE TO THE CRIME SCENE!

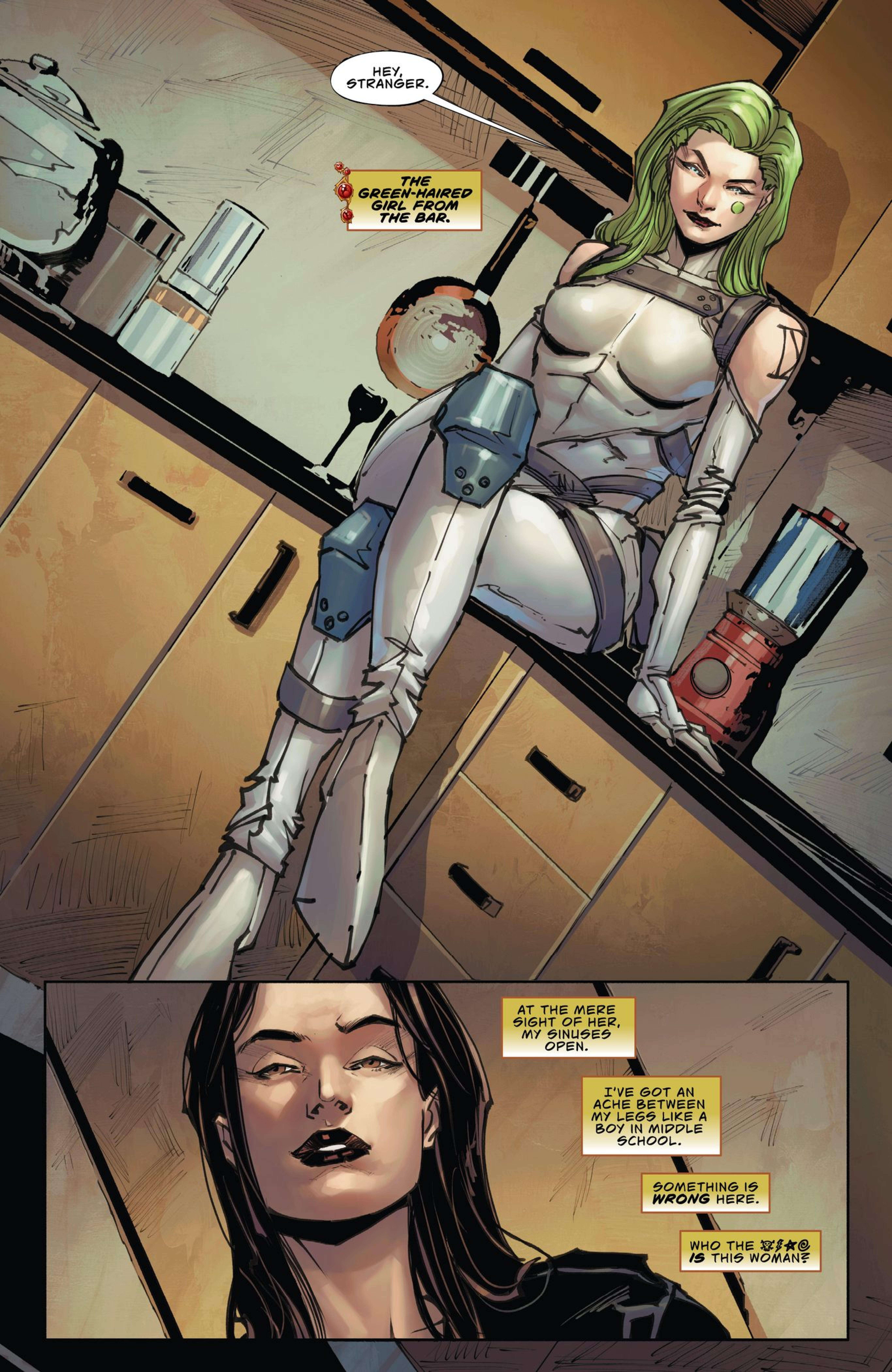

OH MY #$★@.
OH MY #$★@.
BLOOD SPRAY ALL OVER ME--LIKE *I'M* THE ONE WOUNDED!
BUT THERE'S-- *NOTHING?!*
AND THIS POOR SON-OF-A-BITCH--
ROBERT KAMMER.
WAS *I* THE ONE WHO KILLED YOU?!
(MONSTER)
SARA PEZZINI!
AND WHERE'S *THE GIRL WITH THE GREEN HAIR...?*

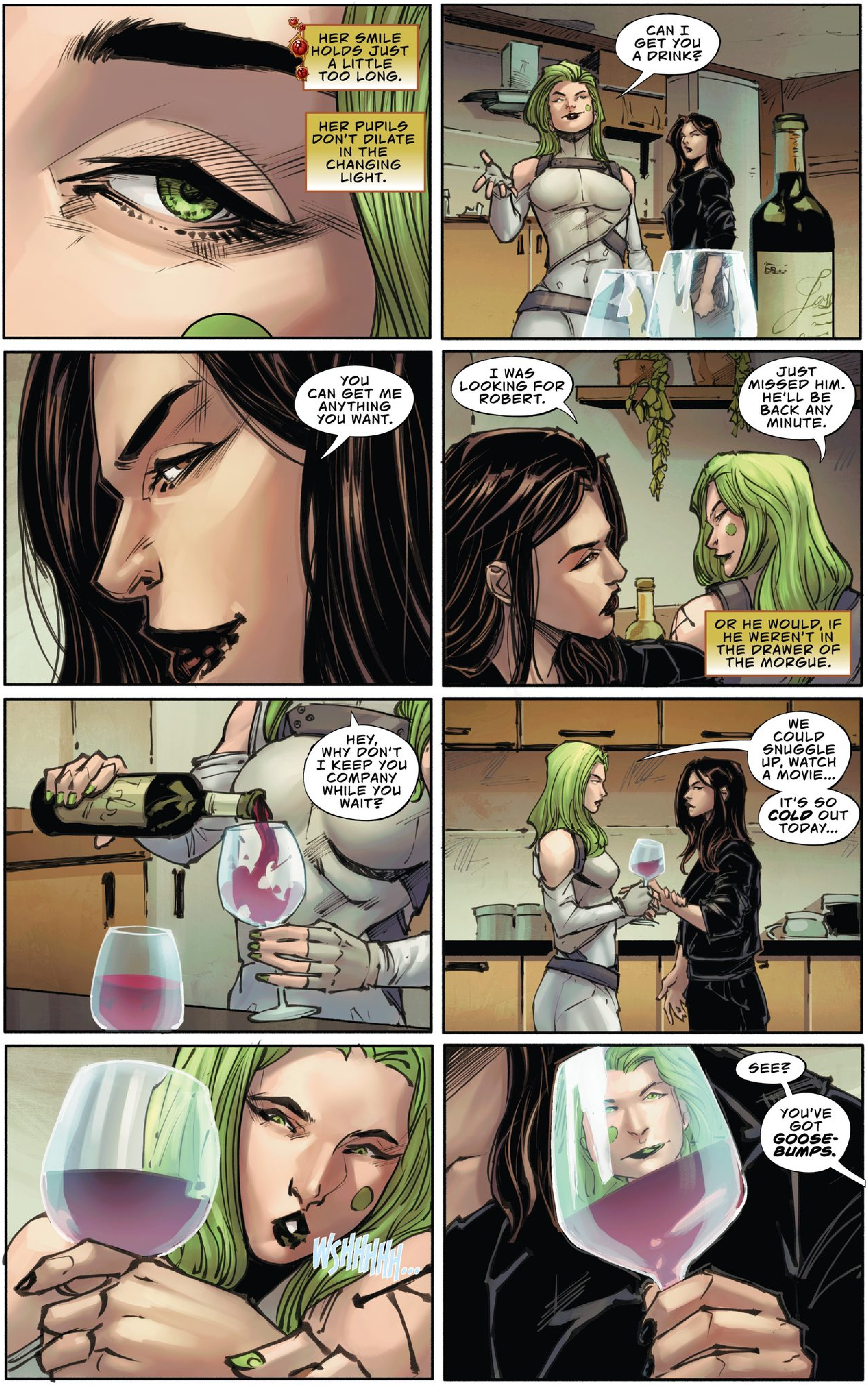

BUNCH OF ROBBERIES.
FANCY NEW DIGITAL LOCKS WERE OVERRIDDEN IN EVERY CASE.
MAKES ME LONG FOR THE DAYS OF LATCHKEYS.
CHRIST.
NO ONE LOSES THIS MUCH BLOOD AND LIVES.
KIDNAPPING'S BEEN UPGRADED TO MURDER.
TRAPASSING - CRIME SCENE - DO NOT CROSS - NO
CRIME SCENE - DO NOT CROSS - NO TRAPASSING - CRIME SCENE - DO NOT
JAKE. SIRY WANTS US TO FIND THE VICTIMS.
WE GOT A SLAUGHTER-HOUSE FOR A CRIME SCENE AND YOU'RE HUNG UP ON SMART-LOCKS?
YUP.
JAKE McCARTHY WAS IN MY VISION IN THE TEMPLE OF THE CREOSOTES.
HE WAS MEANT TO BE ***MY HAPPILY-EVER-AFTER.***
NOW THE UNIVERSE CONSPIRES TO MAKE HIM ***MY PARTNER AT THE NYPD.***
WHAT DOES HE WANT FROM ME?
...OKAY.
LET'S FOLLOW YOUR LEAD.

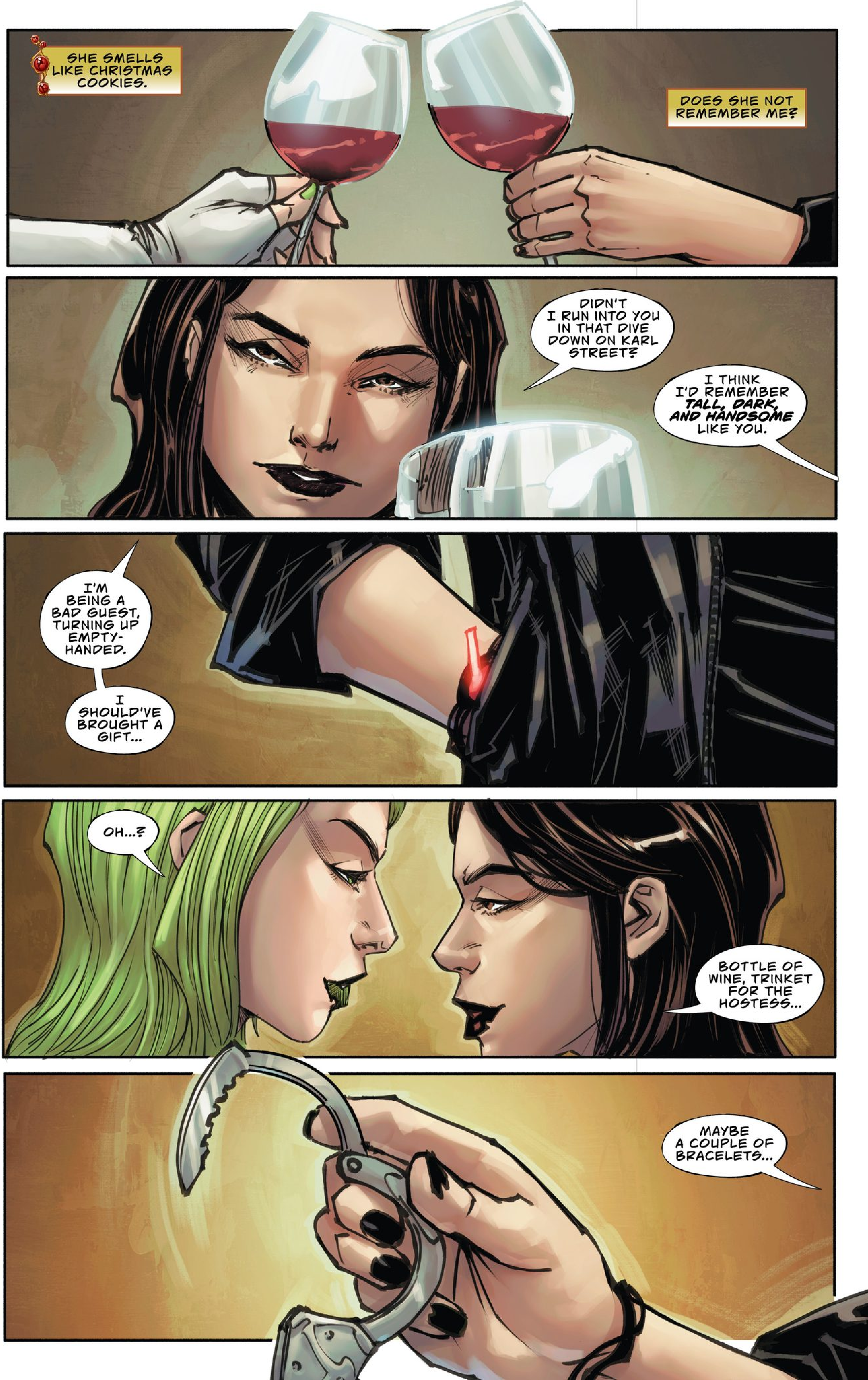

A.S.I. HEADQUARTERS.
"LET'S FOLLOW THE LOCKS."
NEED TO TALK WITH A TECH EXPERT.
THESE SMARTHOME LOCKS WERE PRESENT AND OVERRIDDEN AT MULTIPLE CRIME SCENES IN THE PAST THREE DAYS.
I WANT SOMEONE AT YOUR COMPANY TO EXPLAIN HOW IT HAPPENED.
I'M AFRAID I CAN'T HELP YOU, MR.--?
THIS ISN'T THE WAY TO GET RESULTS.
AND I THOUGHT JAKE WAS LIKE THAT, TOO.
HE USED TO BE, SIRY SAYS.
MR. STERN!
CHRIST, I WISH NICOLE WERE HERE--SHE'D BUTTER THEM UP, CIVILIAN LIAISON, GET TO TALKING ABOUT HER GRANDMA SUNDOWNING, BETTER SECURITY, CAMERAS FOR THE SAFETY OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD CHILDREN--
STEPHAN STERN, RIGHT?
NEW CEO OF A.S.I. HEADQUARTERS...
...AFTER THE SUDDEN DEATH OF THE OLD CEO, DR. ATTICUS OZKIN.

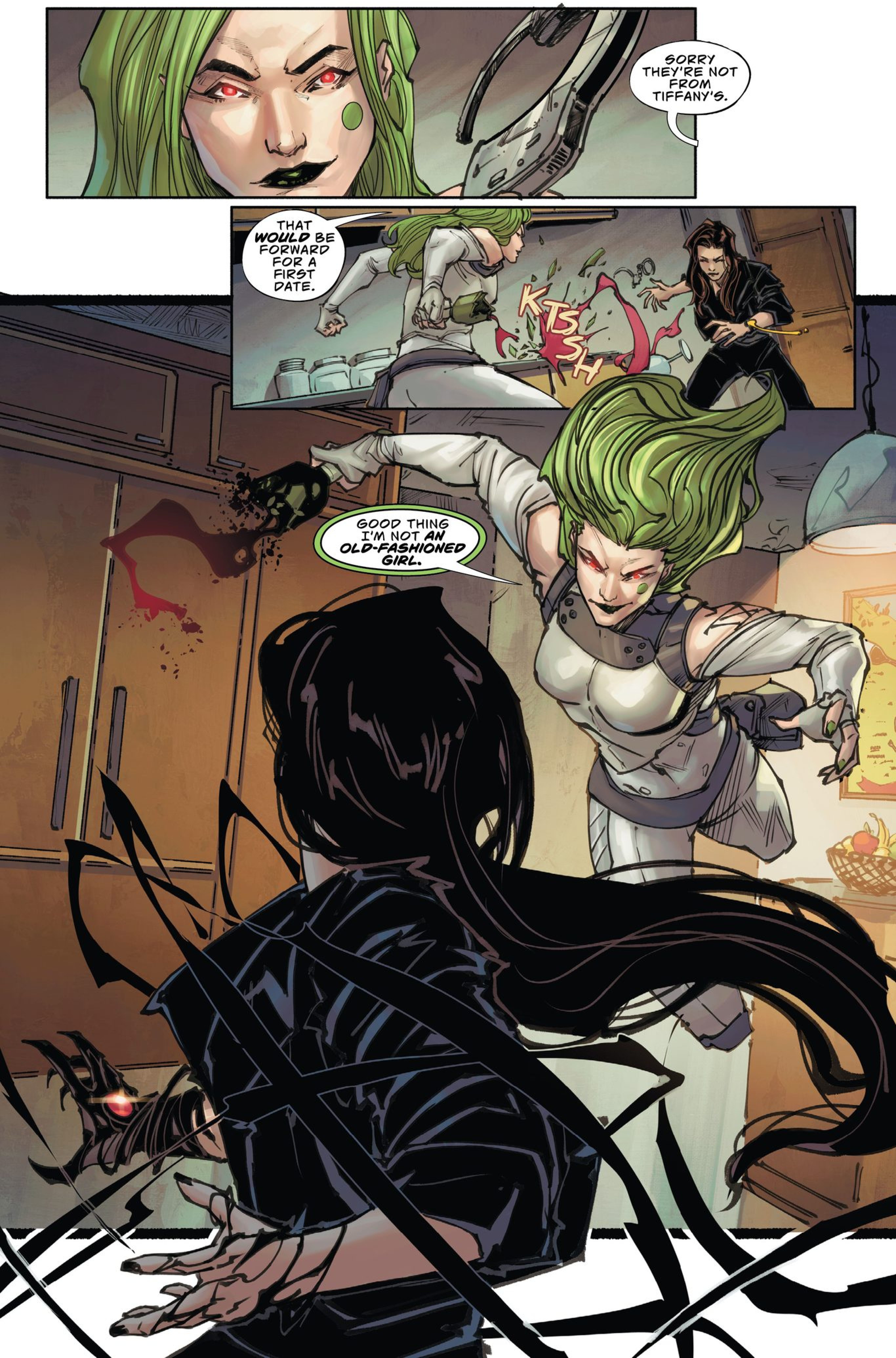

CHRIST, JAKE! COOL YOUR JETS--
WE ALWAYS HAVE TIME TO HELP OUT NEW YORK'S FINEST.
WE ACTUALLY TAKE THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF ALL PEOPLE, NOT JUST OUR CUSTOMERS, VERY SERIOUSLY.
"SALUS POPULI SUPREMA LEX ESTO."
"THE SAFETY OF THE PEOPLE IS THE HIGHEST LAW."
OOOOOH, A PARALEGAL OR A LATIN MINOR?
TWELVE YEARS AT CATHOLIC SCHOOL.
YOU PICK UP A FEW THINGS.
UNFORTUNATELY, ALL OF THESE XL CASTLE LAW SMARTLOCKS SHOW SIGNS OF BEING JAILBROKEN.
THE CUSTOMERS EACH CHOSE UNORTHODOX WAYS OF UPGRADING THE PRODUCT, THEREBY NULLIFYING THE WARRANTY.
I'M AFRAID WE CAN'T BE HELD LIABLE FOR THE FAILURE OF A DEVICE THE CUSTOMER CHOSE TO BREAK.
BEST OF LUCK, THOUGH.

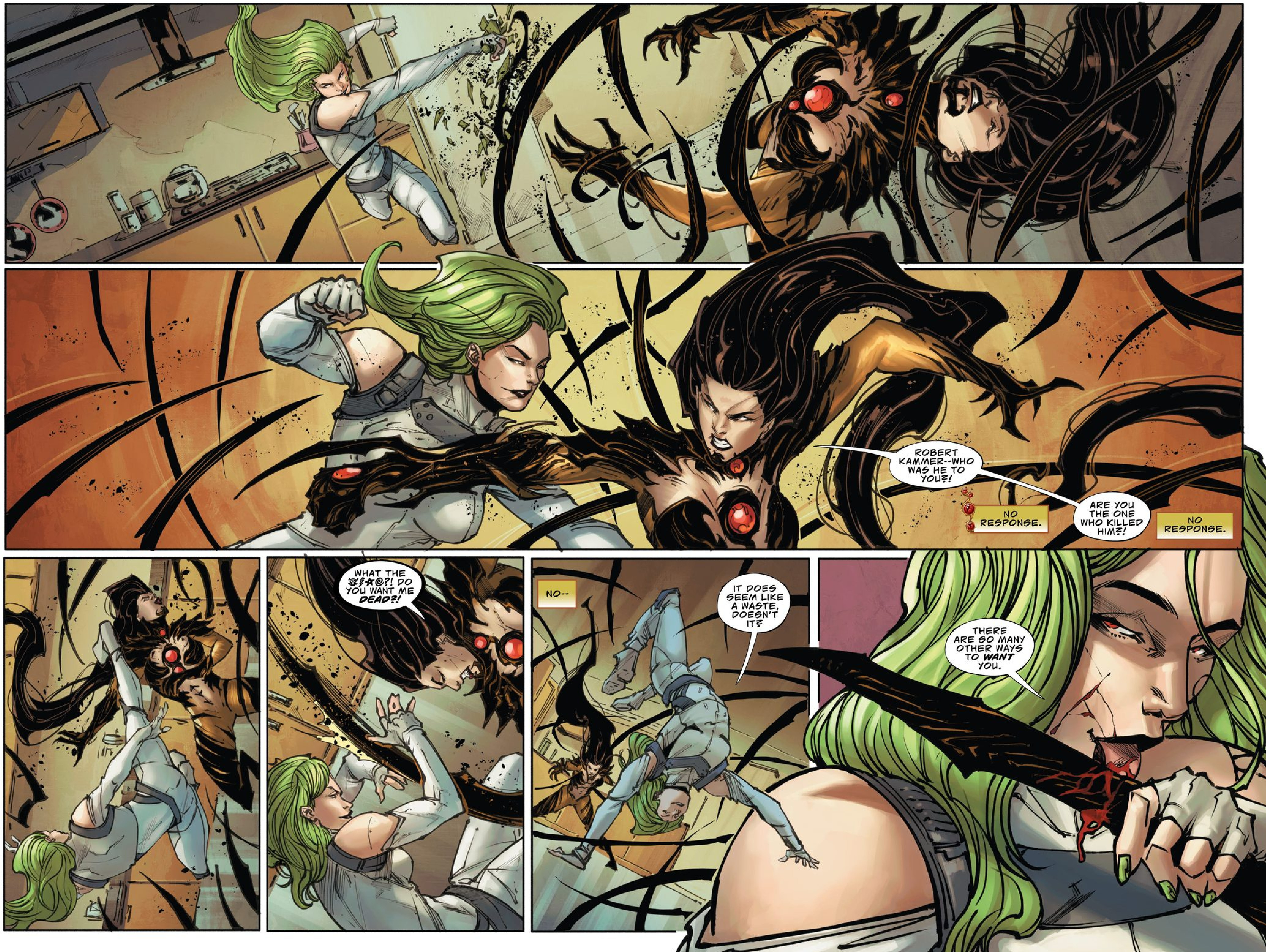

THE MORGUE.
I DROP THE BODY OF ROBERT KAMMER INTO THE RIVER, THEN IMMEDIATELY CALL IT IN.
GUILT GNAWS IN MY RIBS.
I DON'T THINK IT WAS ME. I DON'T THINK IT WAS ME THAT KILLED YOU.
AND WHERE IS ***THAT DAMNED GREEN-HAIRED GIRL?!***
THE APARTMENT OF ROBERT KAMMER.
3
1
THE SMARTLOCKS ONLY OPEN WITH A NEW TRUYU STATE ID.
AND WHAT DO YOU KNOW...
HE'S GOT ***THE SAME LOCK*** AS THE OTHER VICTIMS.
THE WITCHBLADE USUALLY WARNS ME OF DANGER...
IT'S...***HUMMING.*** LIKE IT'S SEARCHING... ***MAGNETIZED...***
...BUT NOW THE WITCHBLADE STAYS ***SILENT.***

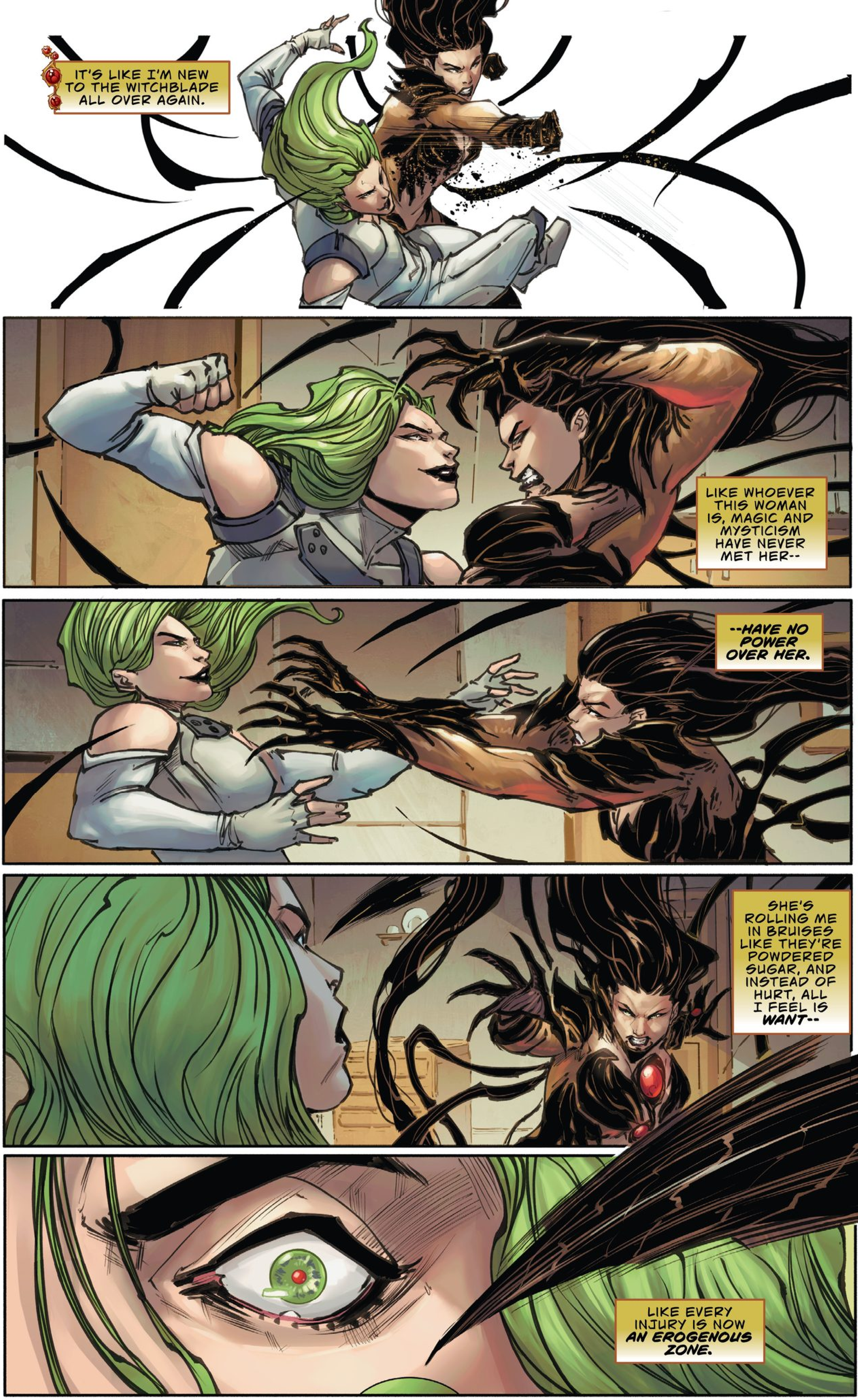

HEY, STRANGER.
THE GREEN-HAIRED GIRL FROM THE BAR.
AT THE MERE SIGHT OF HER, MY SINUSES OPEN.
I'VE GOT AN ACHE BETWEEN MY LEGS LIKE A BOY IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.
SOMETHING IS ***WRONG*** HERE.
WHO THE ☠⚡★@ ***IS*** THIS WOMAN?

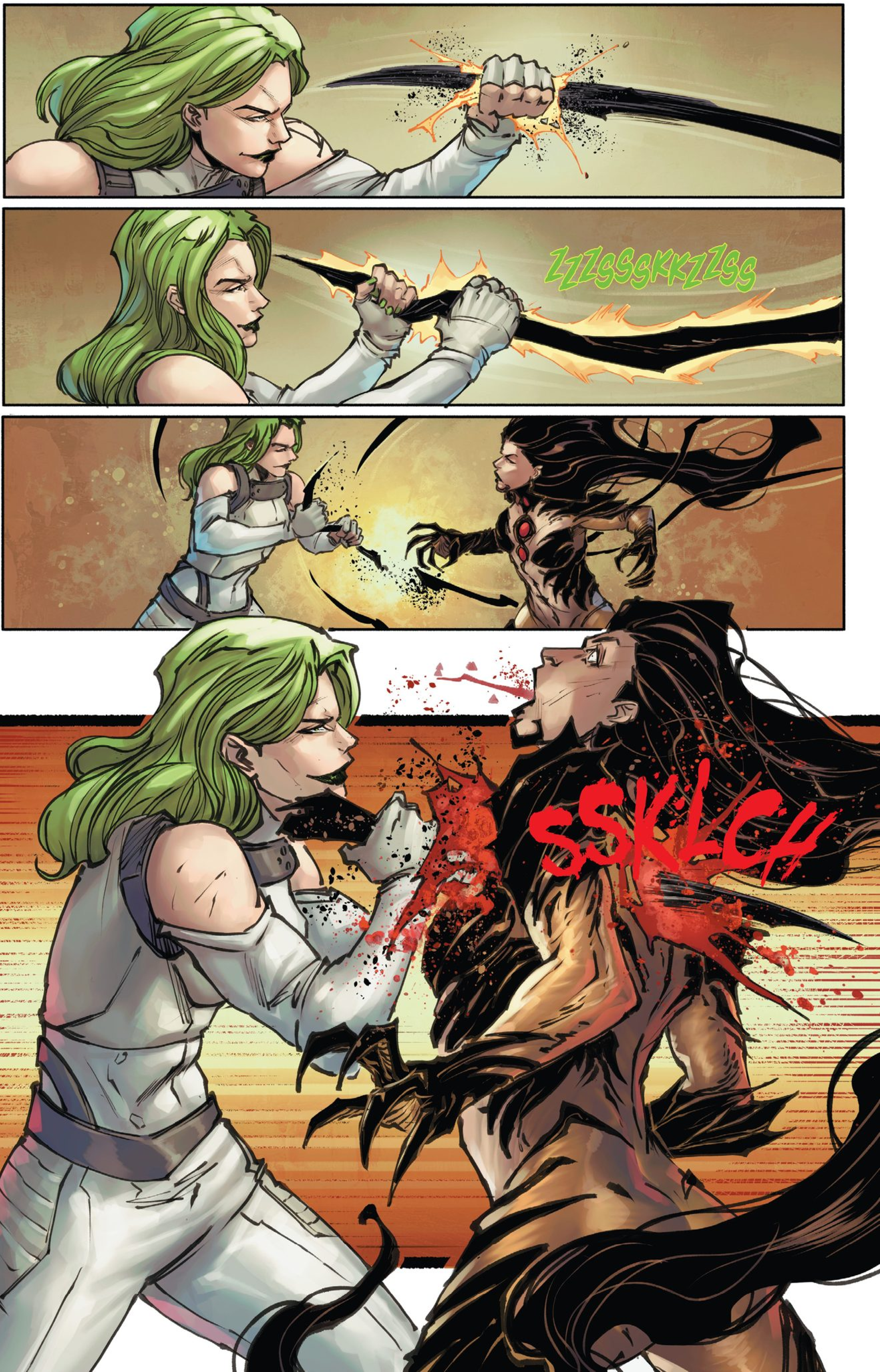

HER SMILE HOLDS JUST A LITTLE TOO LONG.
HER PUPILS DON'T DILATE IN THE CHANGING LIGHT.
CAN I GET YOU A DRINK?
YOU CAN GET ME ANYTHING YOU WANT.
I WAS LOOKING FOR ROBERT.
JUST MISSED HIM. HE'LL BE BACK ANY MINUTE.
OR HE WOULD, IF HE WEREN'T IN THE DRAWER OF THE MORGUE.
HEY, WHY DON'T I KEEP YOU COMPANY WHILE YOU WAIT?
WE COULD SNUGGLE UP, WATCH A MOVIE...
IT'S SO **COLD** OUT TODAY...
WSHHHHH...
SEE?
YOU'VE GOT **GOOSE-BUMPS.**

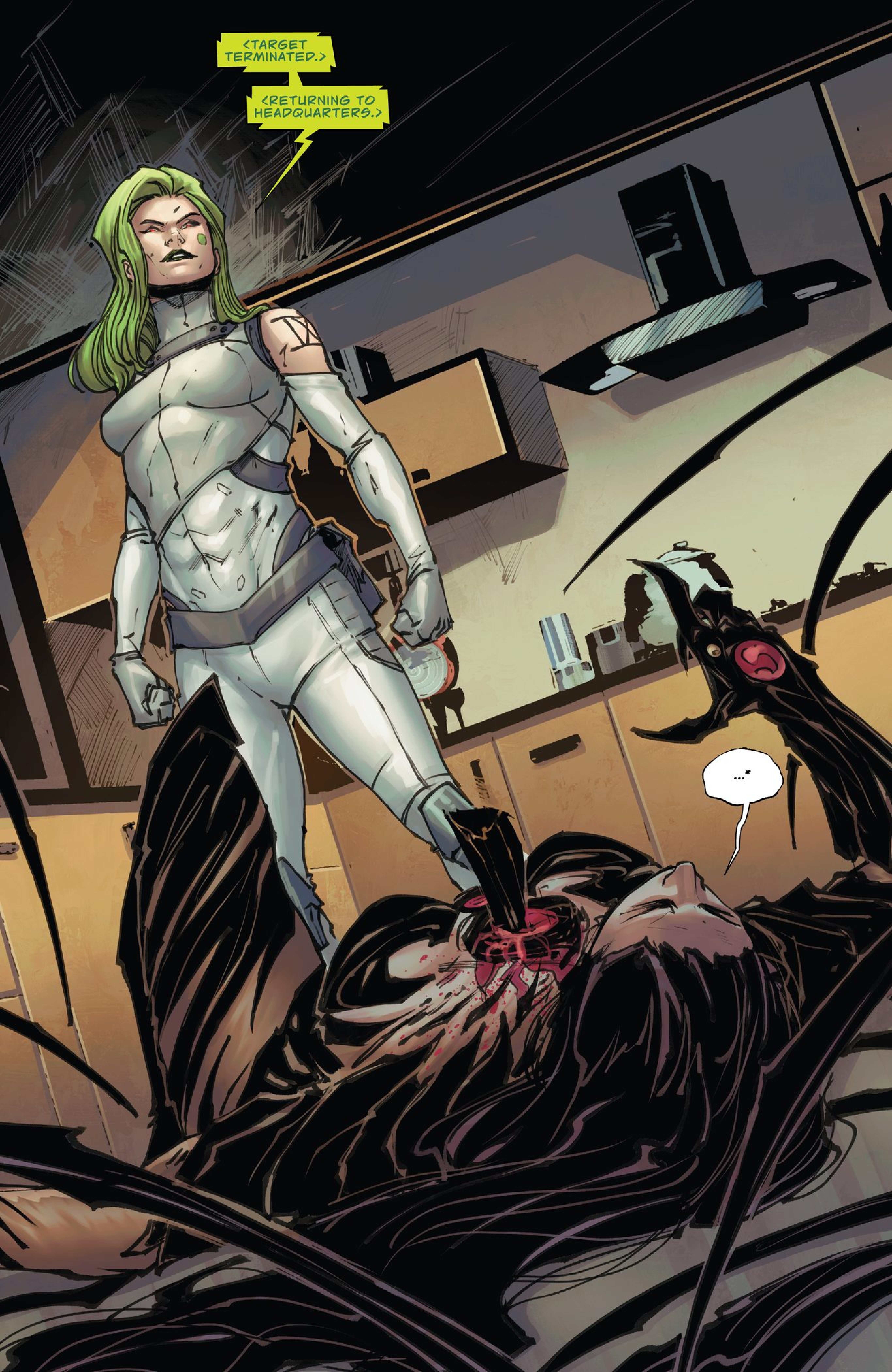

SHE SMELLS LIKE CHRISTMAS COOKIES.
DOES SHE NOT REMEMBER ME?
DIDN'T I RUN INTO YOU IN THAT DIVE DOWN ON KARL STREET?
I THINK I'D REMEMBER ***TALL, DARK, AND HANDSOME*** LIKE YOU.
I'M BEING A BAD GUEST, TURNING UP EMPTY-HANDED.
I SHOULD'VE BROUGHT A GIFT...
OH...?
BOTTLE OF WINE, TRINKET FOR THE HOSTESS...
MAYBE A COUPLE OF BRACELETS...

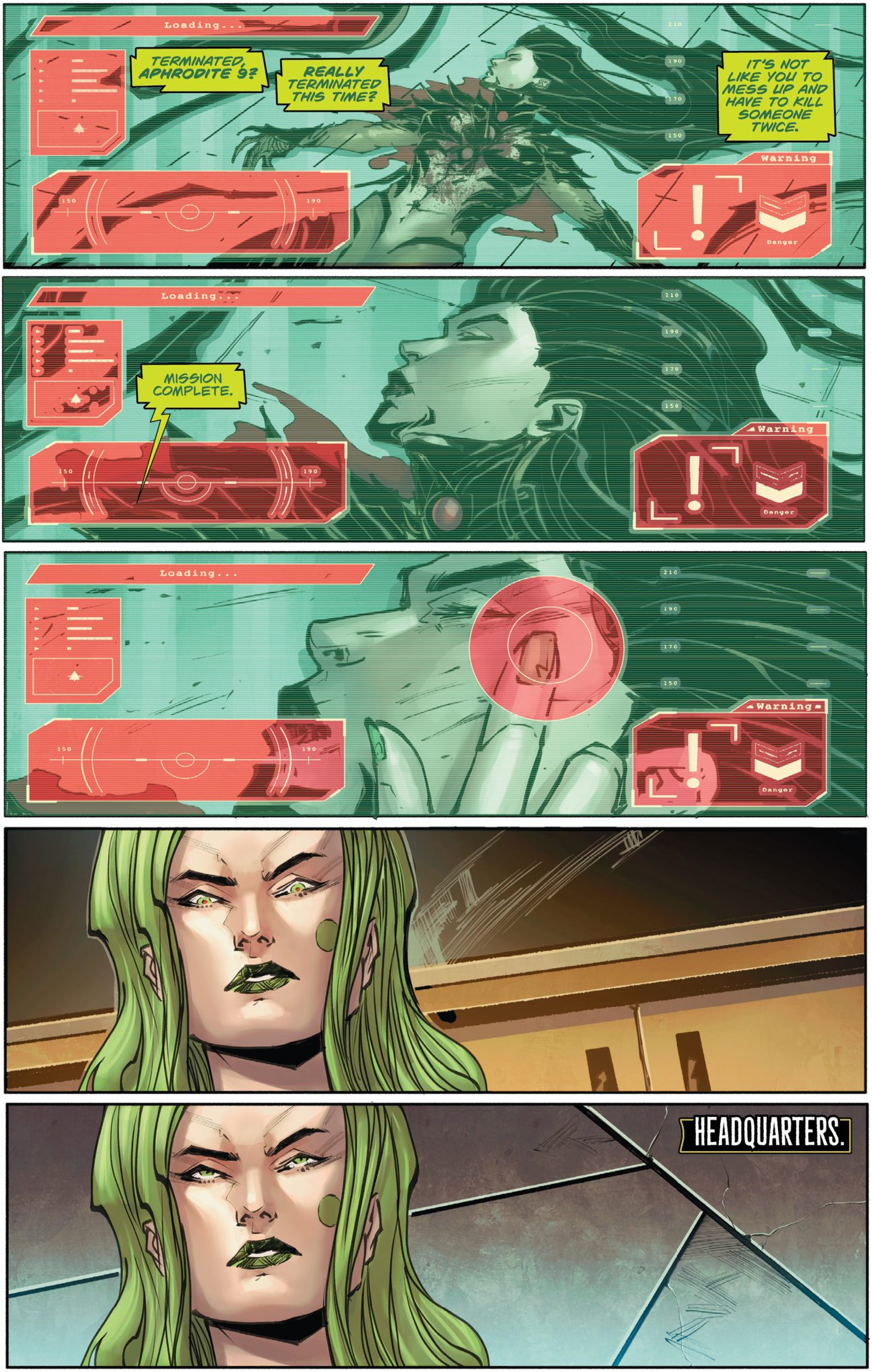

SORRY THEY'RE NOT FROM TIFFANY'S.
THAT **WOULD** BE FORWARD FOR A FIRST DATE.
KTSSH
GOOD THING I'M NOT **AN OLD-FASHIONED GIRL.**

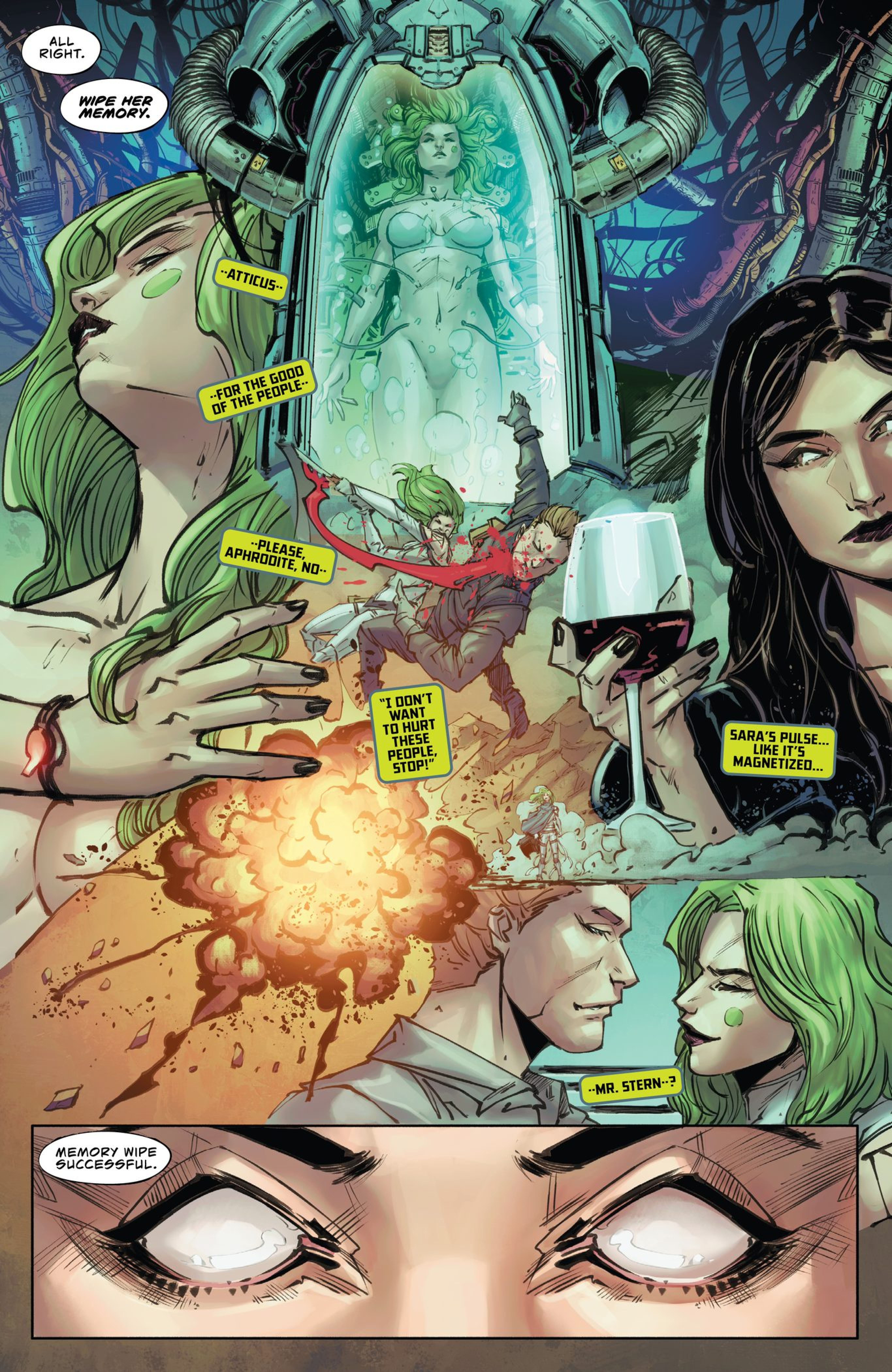

ROBERT KAMMER--WHO WAS HE TO YOU?!
NO RESPONSE.
ARE YOU THE ONE WHO KILLED HIM?!
NO RESPONSE.
WHAT THE ☠$★@?! DO YOU WANT ME **DEAD?!**
NO--
IT DOES SEEM LIKE A WASTE, DOESN'T IT?
THERE ARE SO MANY OTHER WAYS TO ***WANT*** YOU.

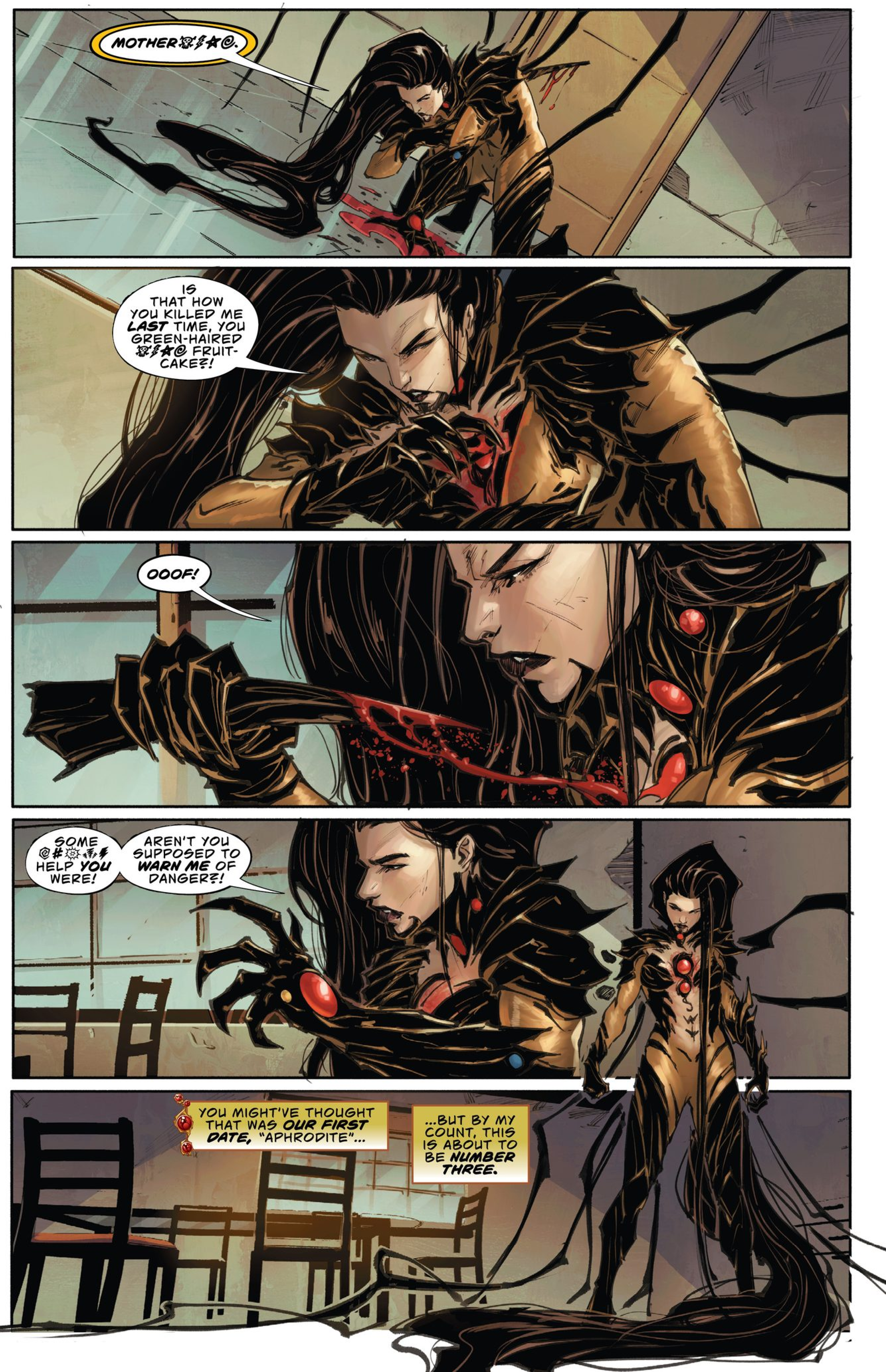

IT'S LIKE I'M NEW TO THE WITCHBLADE ALL OVER AGAIN.
LIKE WHOEVER THIS WOMAN IS, MAGIC AND MYSTICISM HAVE NEVER MET HER--
--*HAVE NO POWER OVER HER.*
SHE'S ROLLING ME IN BRUISES LIKE THEY'RE POWDERED SUGAR, AND INSTEAD OF HURT, ALL I FEEL IS *WANT*--
LIKE EVERY INJURY IS NOW *AN EROGENOUS ZONE.*

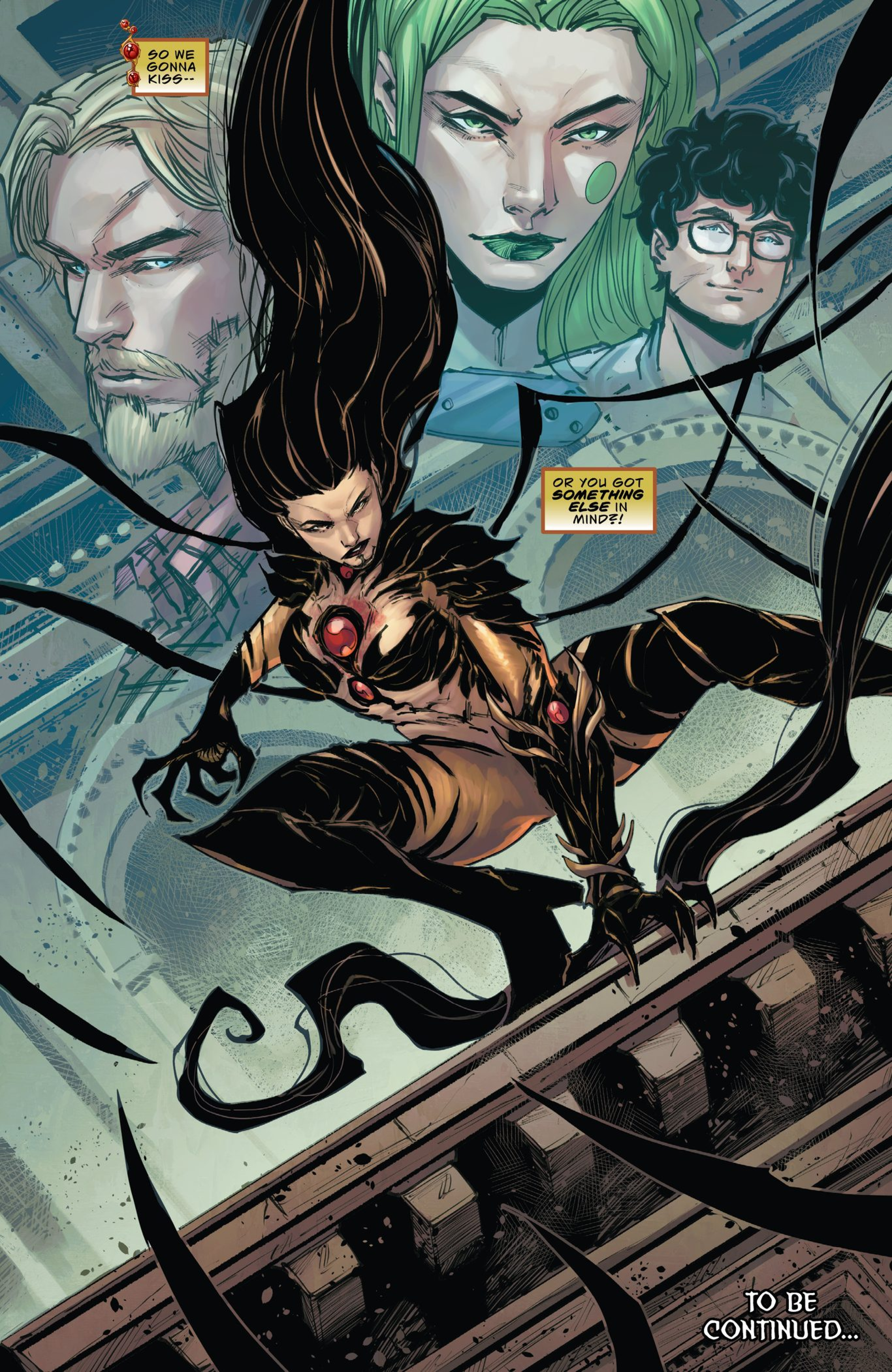

ZZZSSSKKZZSS
SSKLCH




Loading...
TERMINATED, APHRODITE 9?
REALLY TERMINATED THIS TIME?
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU TO MESS UP AND HAVE TO KILL SOMEONE TWICE.
210
190
170
150
Warning
Danger
Loading...
MISSION COMPLETE.
210
190
170
150
Warning
Danger
Loading...
210
190
170
150
Warning
Danger
HEADQUARTERS.

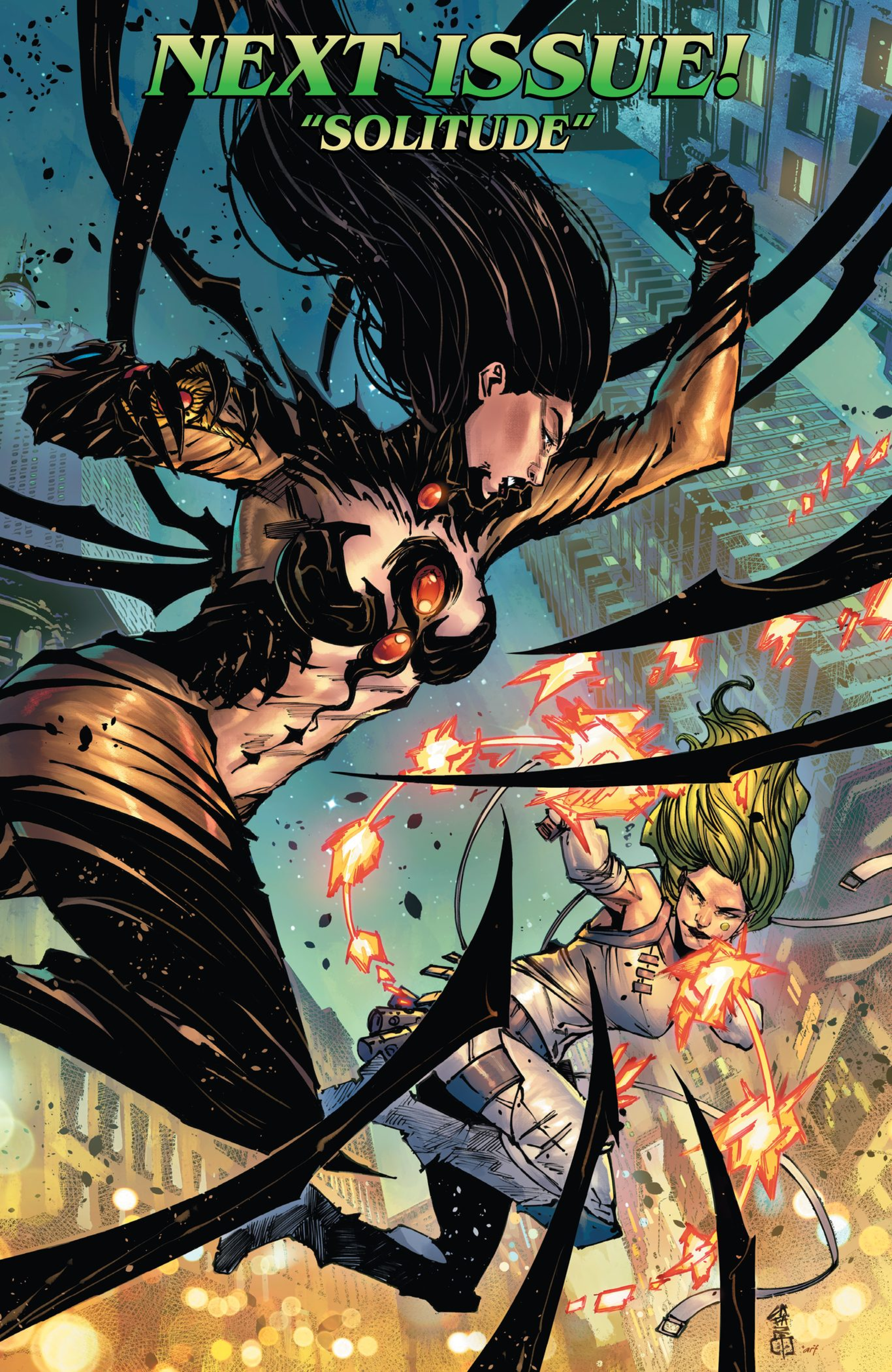

ALL RIGHT.
WIPE HER MEMORY.
--ATTICUS--
--FOR THE GOOD OF THE PEOPLE--
--PLEASE, APHRODITE, NO--
"I DON'T WANT TO HURT THESE PEOPLE, STOP!"
SARA'S PULSE... LIKE IT'S MAGNETIZED...
--MR. STERN--?
MEMORY WIPE SUCCESSFUL.


MOTHER☠⚡★@.
IS THAT HOW YOU KILLED ME LAST TIME, YOU GREEN-HAIRED ☠⚡★@ FRUIT-CAKE?!
OOOF!
SOME @#☼⚡⚡ HELP YOU WERE!
AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO WARN ME OF DANGER?!
YOU MIGHT'VE THOUGHT THAT WAS OUR FIRST DATE, "APHRODITE"...
...BUT BY MY COUNT, THIS IS ABOUT TO BE NUMBER THREE.

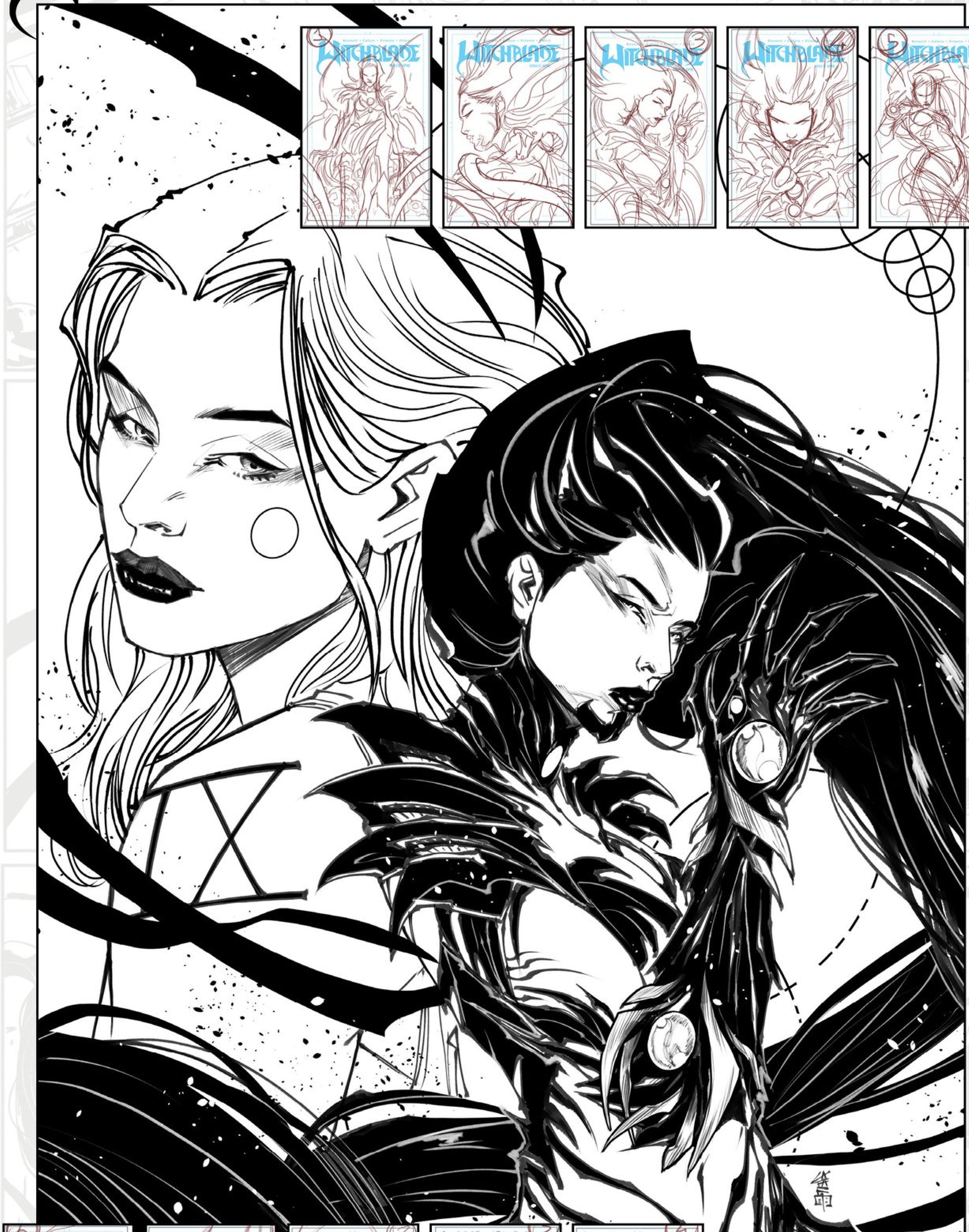

SO WE GONNA KISS--
OR YOU GOT **SOMETHING ELSE** IN MIND?!
TO BE CONTINUED...

NEXT ISSUE!

"SOLITUDE"



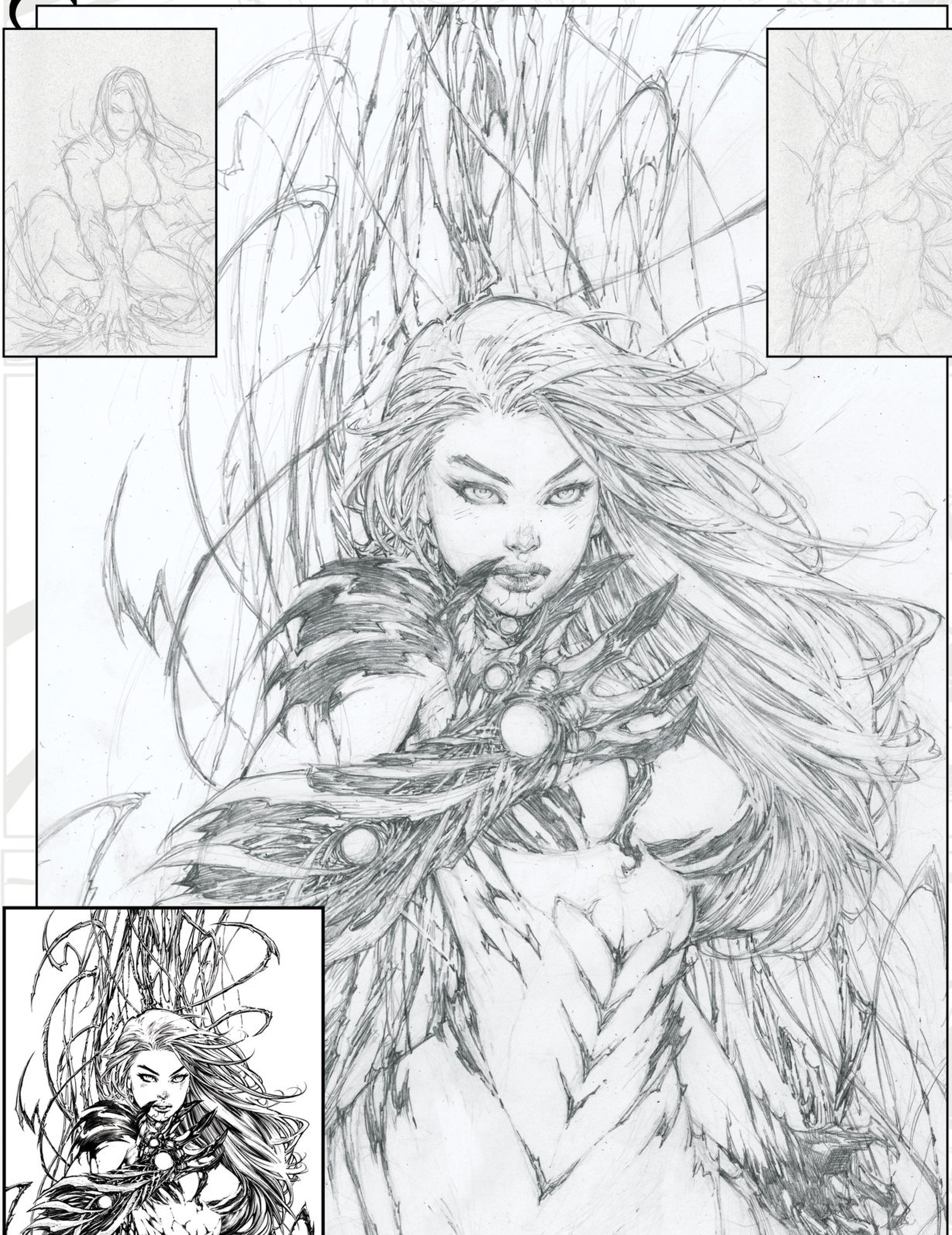
WITCHBLADE #19 Gallery • Cover A Process



Witchblade #19, Cover A, process from thumbnail, line art to colors
Art by **Giuseppe Cafaro** and **Arif Prianto**

IX

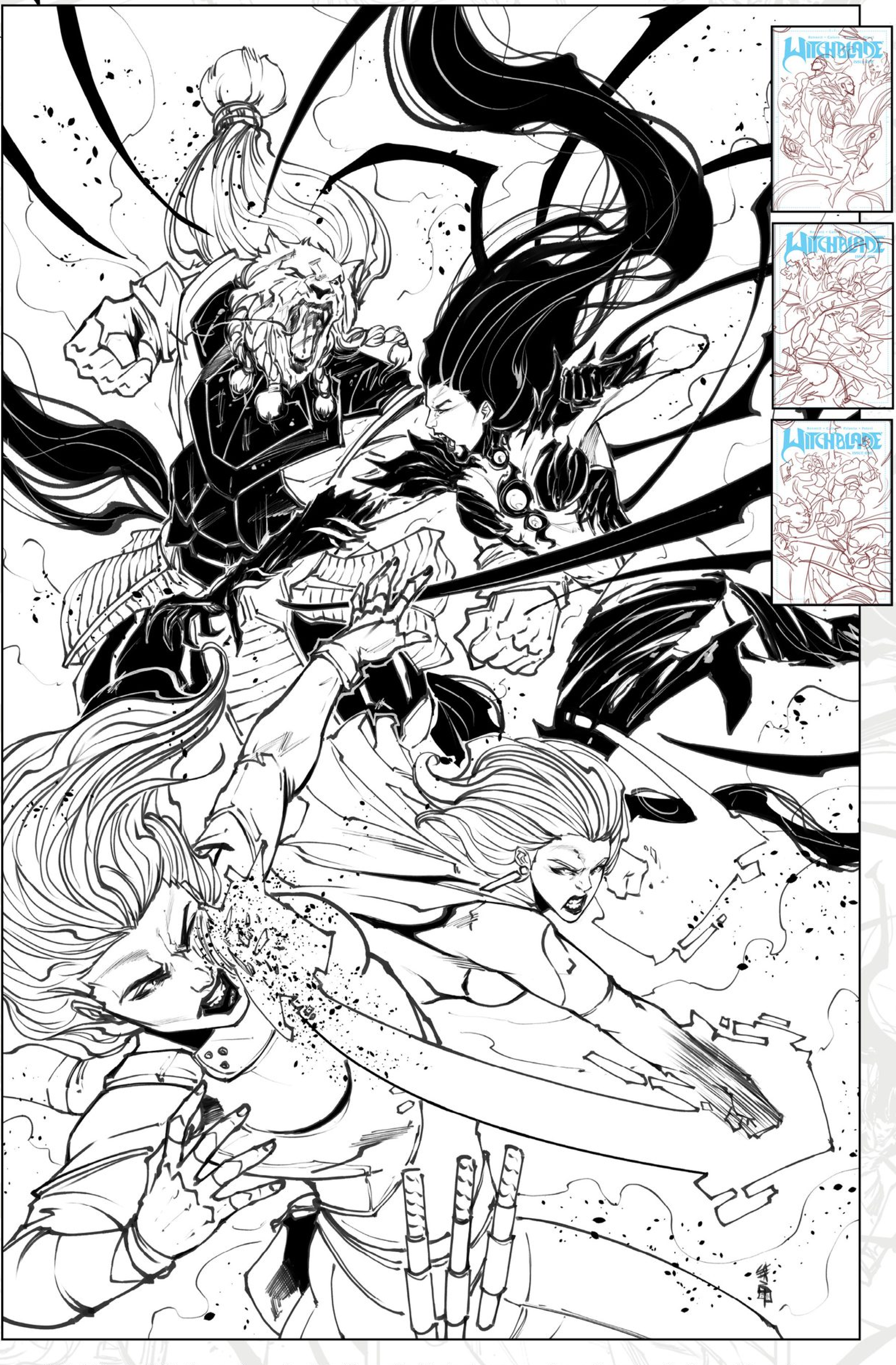
WITCHBLADE #19 Gallery • Cover B Process



Witchblade #19, Cover B, C, D, and Top Cow Store Spot Foil Exclusive process from thumbnail, pencils, inks to colors
Art by **Ed Benes**, **Richard Friend**, and **Gibran Ferdian**

BENES 2025
FRIEND
GIBRAN

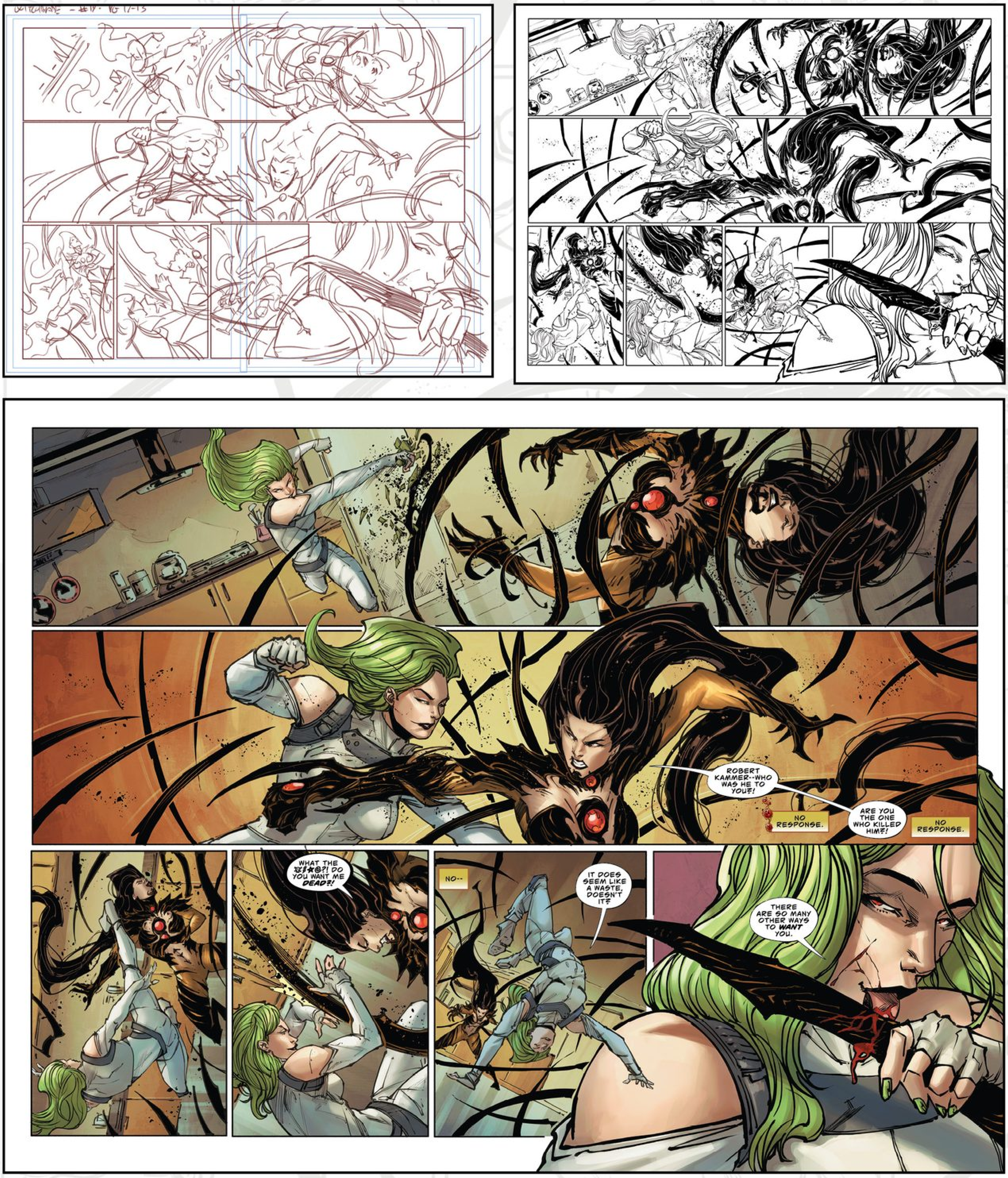
WITCHBLADE #19 Gallery • Cover E Process


WITCHBLADE
WITCHBLADE
WITCHBLADE

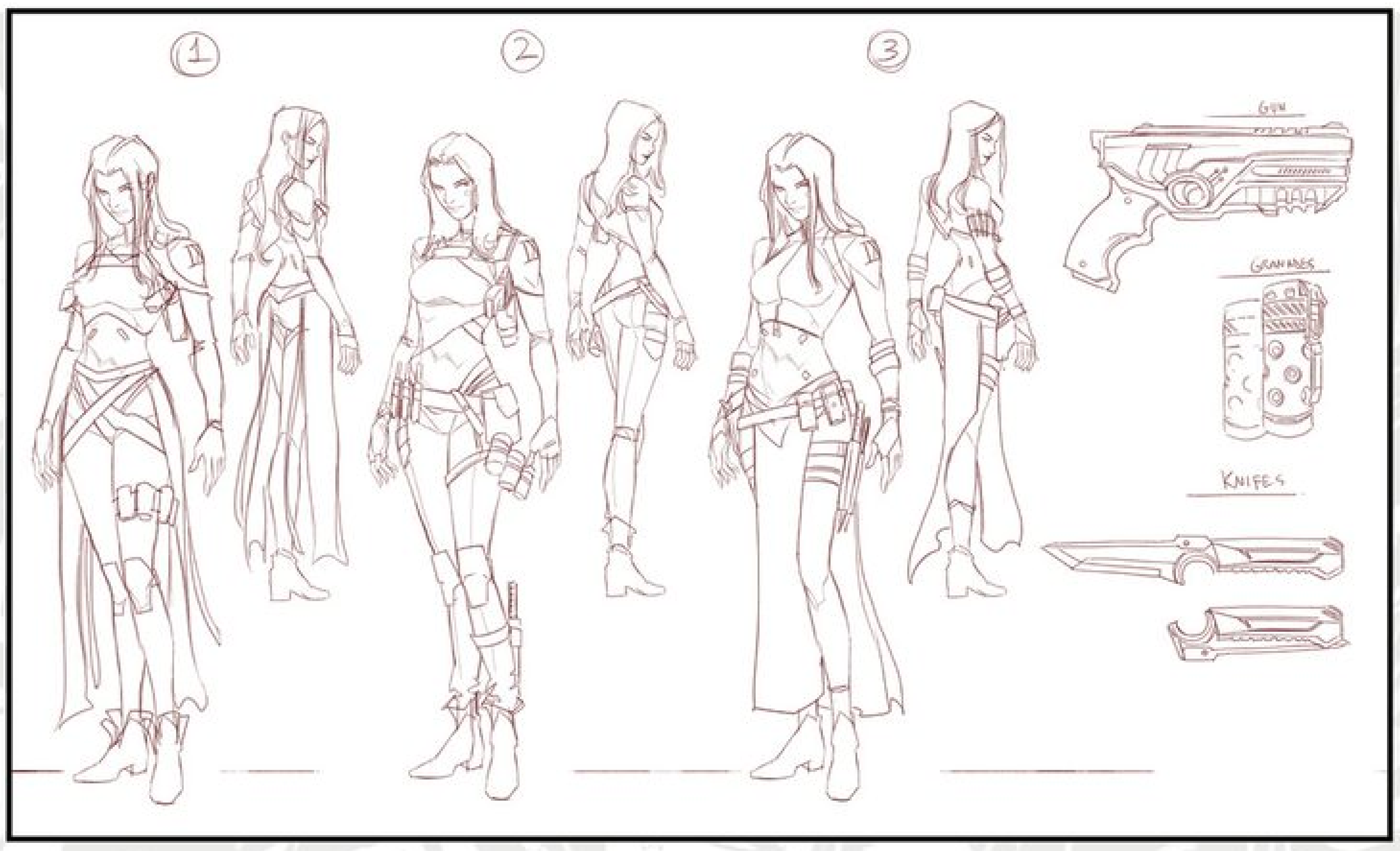
Witchblade #19, Cover E, *Invincible* Team-Up Variant process from thumbnail, line art to colors
Art by **Giuseppe Cafaro** and **Steve Firchow**

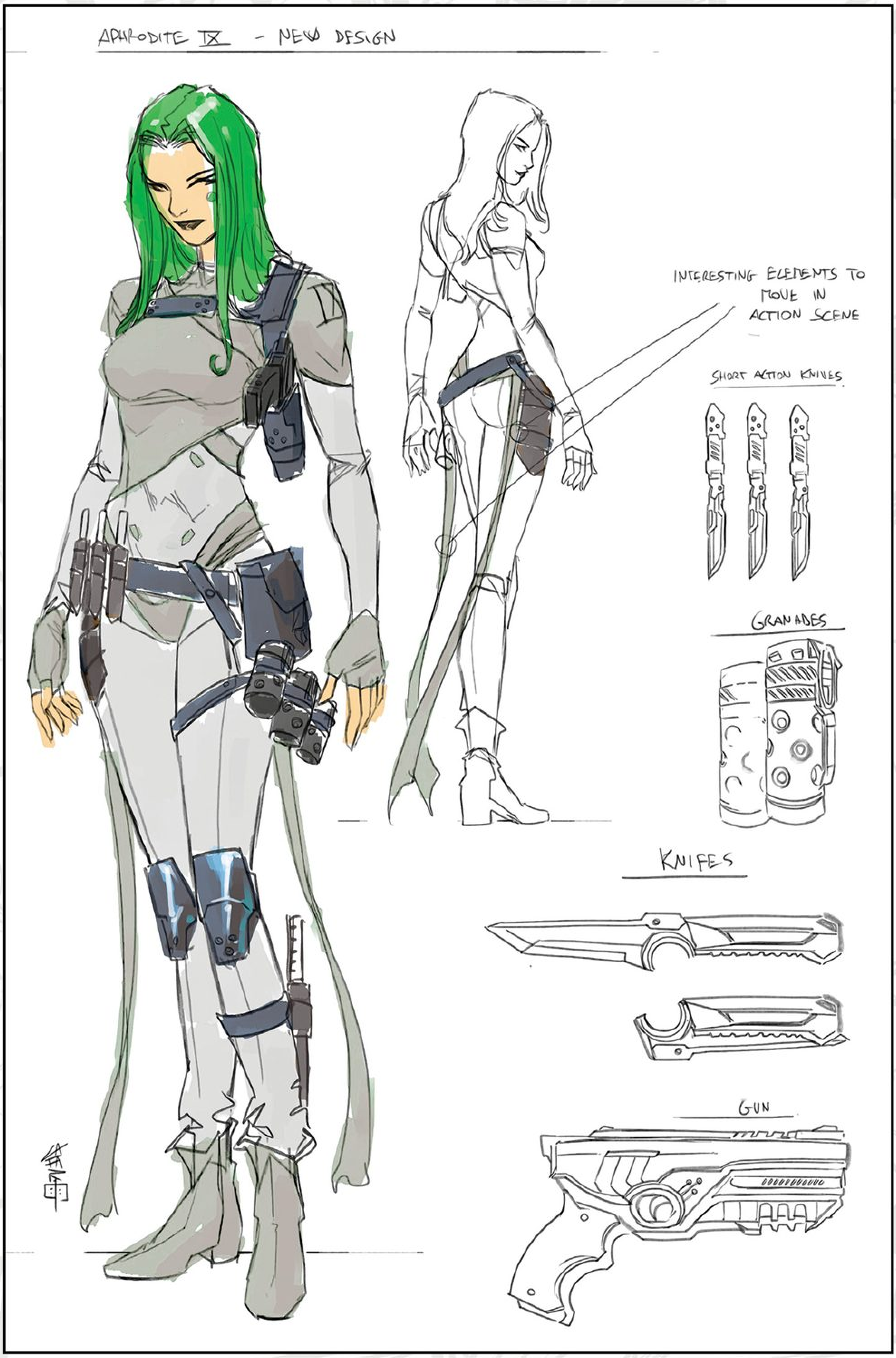
WITCHBLADE®

#19 Gallery • Page Process and Character Design


WITCHBLADE - #19 - PG 12-13
ROBERT KAMMER--WHO WAS HE TO YOU?
NO RESPONSE.
ARE YOU THE ONE WHO KILLED HIM?!
NO RESPONSE.
WHAT THE #!★@?! DO YOU WANT ME DEAD?!
NO--
IT DOES SEEM LIKE A WASTE, DOESN'T IT?
THERE ARE SO MANY OTHER WAYS TO WANT YOU.

Witchblade #19, pages 12-13, process from thumbnails, line art, colors to letters


①
②
③
GUN
GRANADES
KNIFES

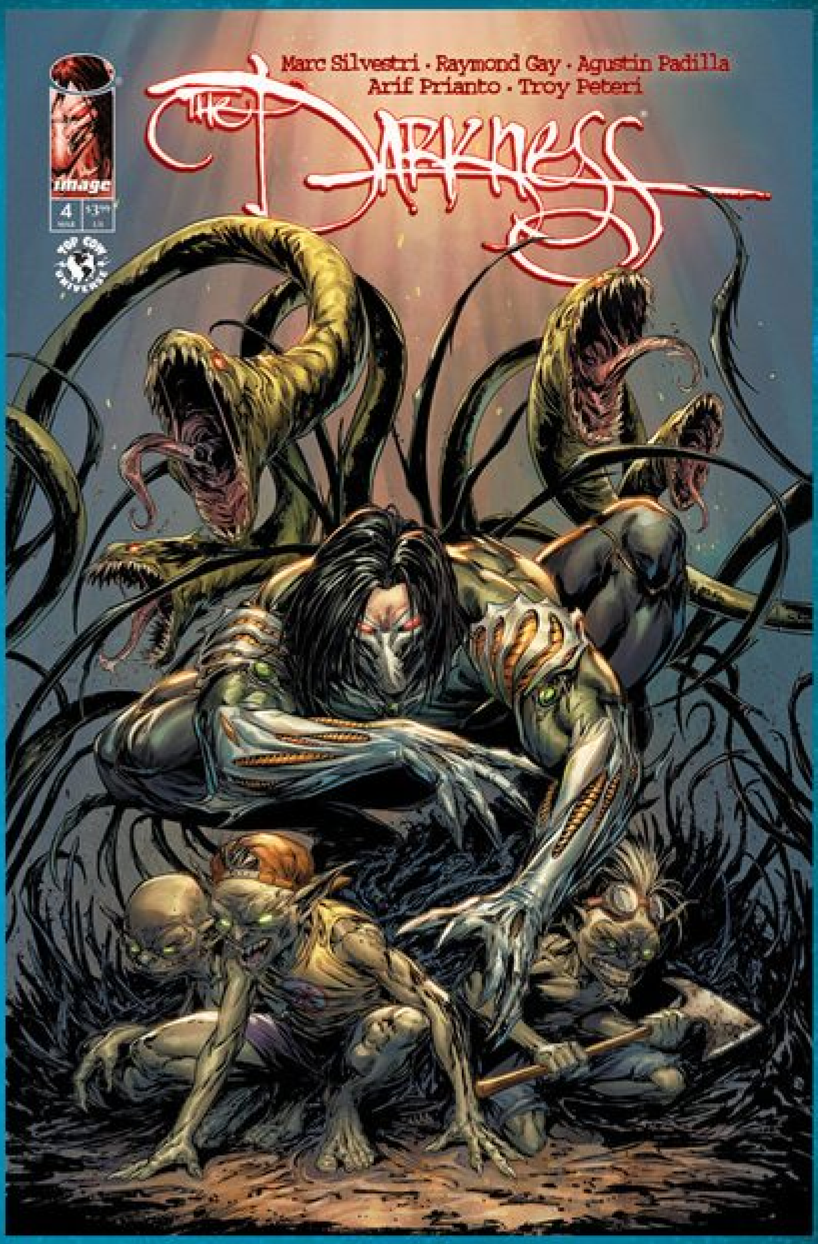

APHRODITE IX - NEW DESIGN
INTERESTING ELEMENTS TO MOVE IN ACTION SCENE
SHORT ACTION KNIVES
GRANADES
KNIFES
GUN

APHRODITE IX. Concept Art by **Giuseppe Cafaro** and **Arif Prianto**

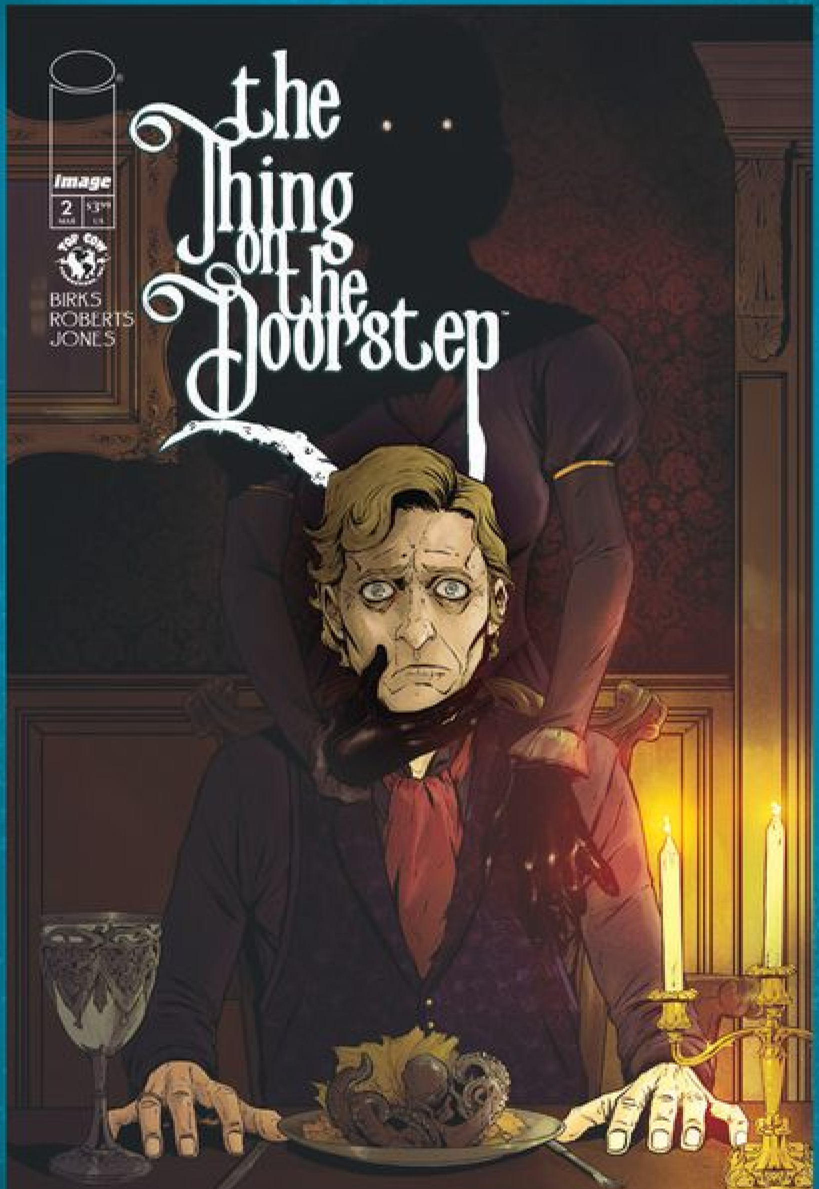
FROM TOP COW IN MARCH!

Bennett • Cafaro • Prianto • Peteri
WITCHBLADE
19

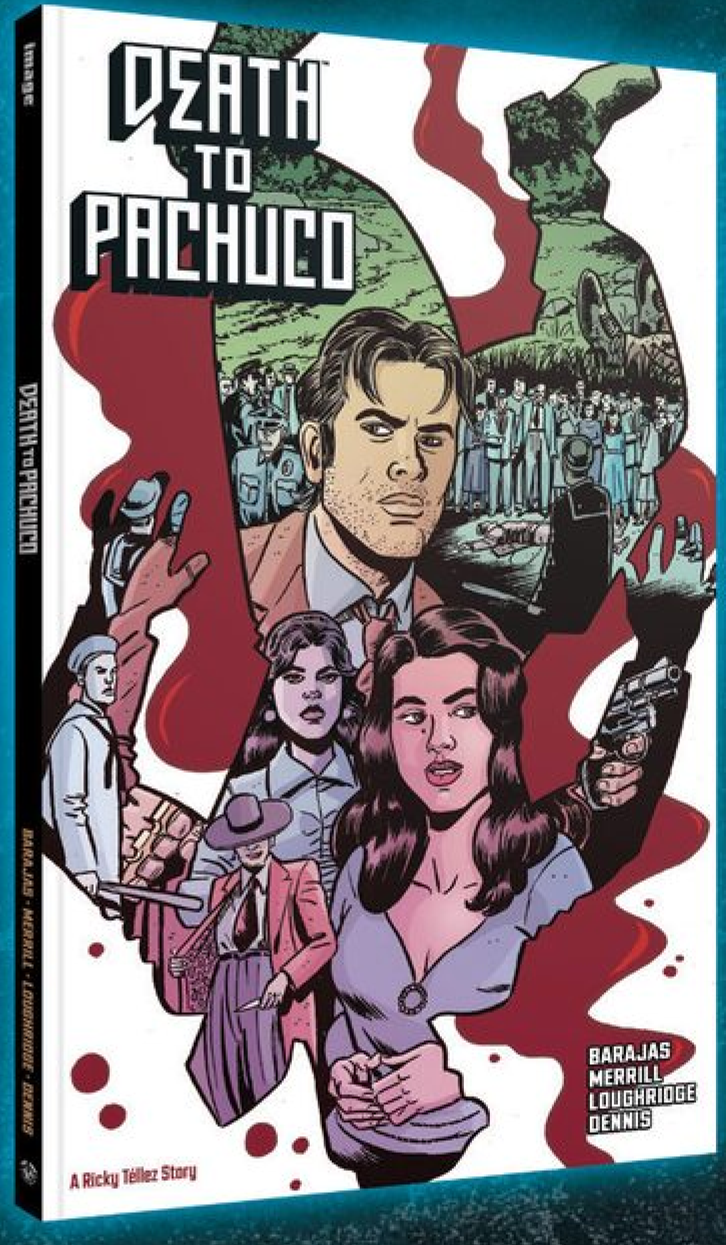
Witchblade #19
WRITER: Marguerite Bennett
ARTIST: Giuseppe Cafaro
COLORIST: Arif Prianto
LETTERER: Troy Peteri
32 pages · $3.99 · Mar. 11


Marc Silvestri • Raymond Gay • Agustin Padilla
Arif Prianto • Troy Peteri
The Darkness
4

The Darkness #3
WRITER: Marc Silvestri
LINE ART BY: Gay, Cafaro, Padilla
COLORS BY: Arif Prianto
LETTERER: Troy Peteri
32 pages · $3.99 · Mar. 18


the Thing on the Doorstep
2
BIRKS
ROBERTS
JONES

The Thing on the Doorstep #2 (of 5)
WRITER: Simon Birks
ARTIST: Willi Roberts
LETTERER: Rob Jones
32 pages · $3.99 · Mar. 18


DEATH TO PACHUCO
BARAJAS
MERRILL
LOUGHRIDGE
DENNIS
A Ricky Téllez Story

Death To Pachuco TP
WRITER: Henry Barajas
ARTIST: Rachel Merrill
COLORIST: Lee Loughridge
168 pages · $16.99 · Mar. 18

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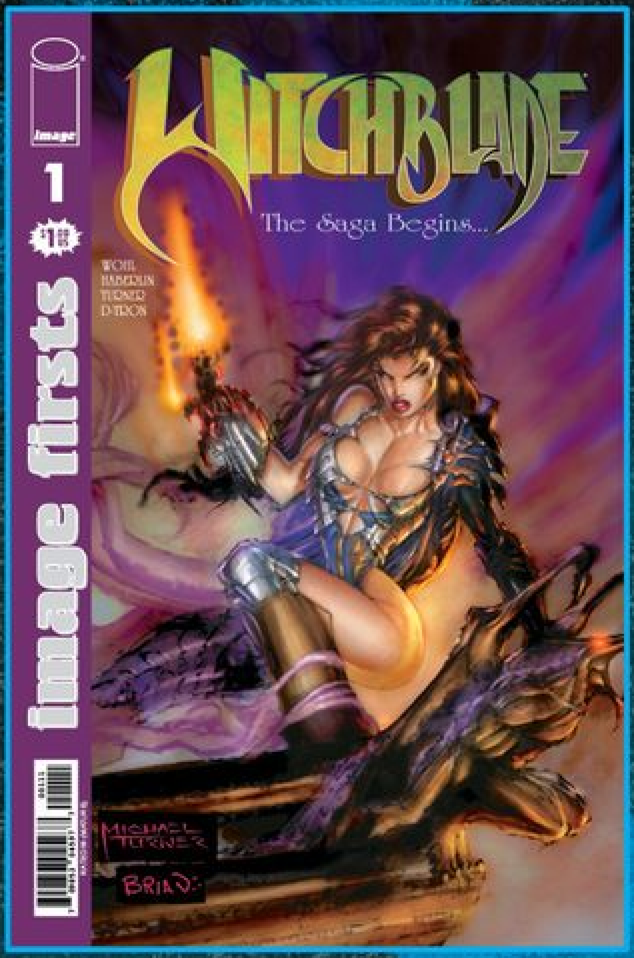
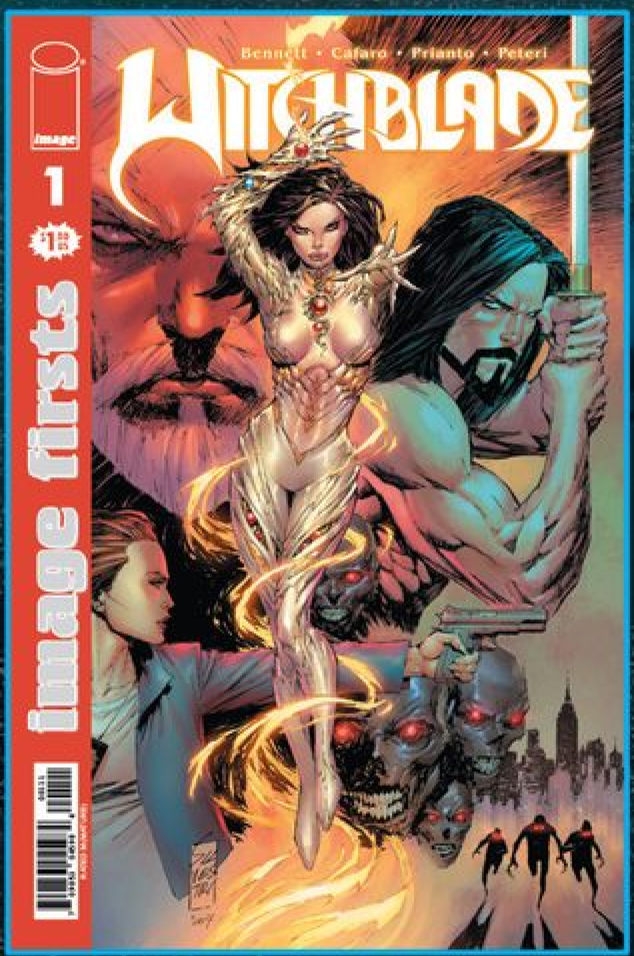
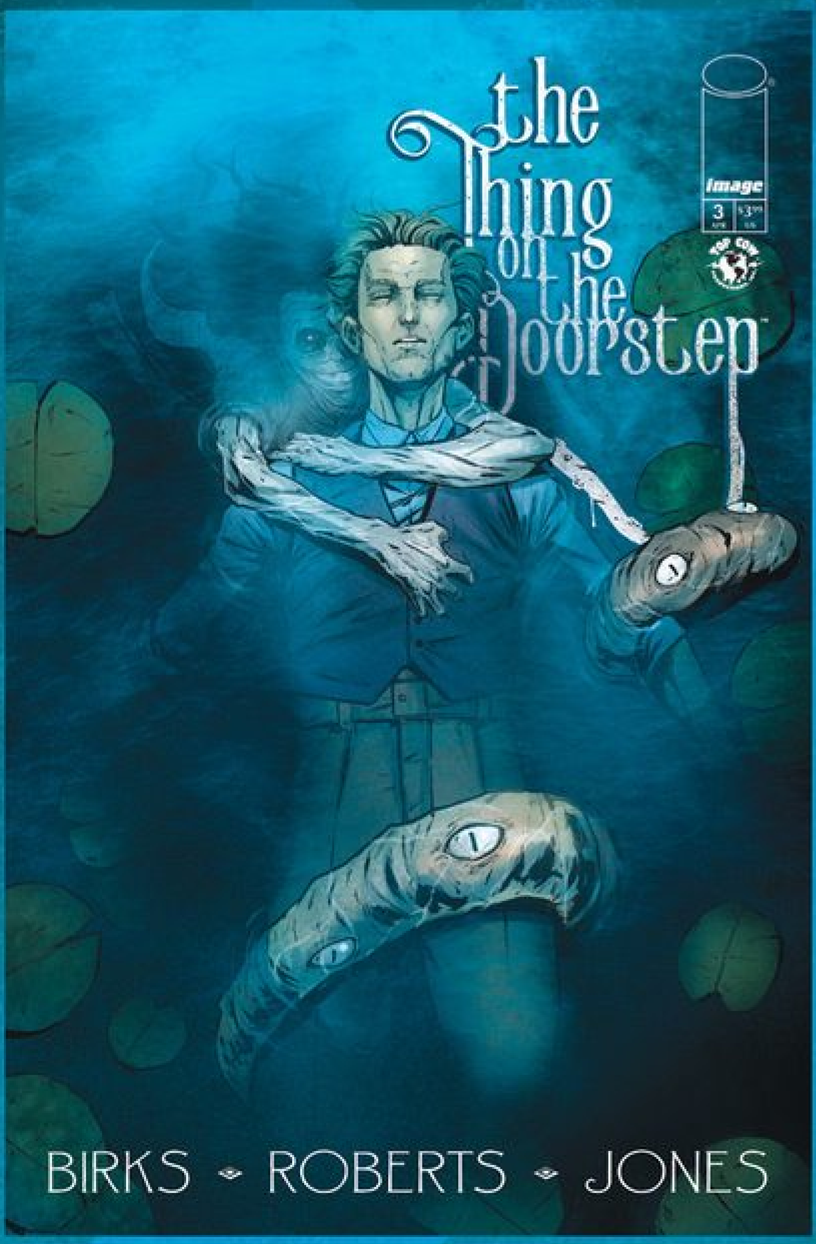

WITCHBLADE
The Saga Begins...
1
image firsts

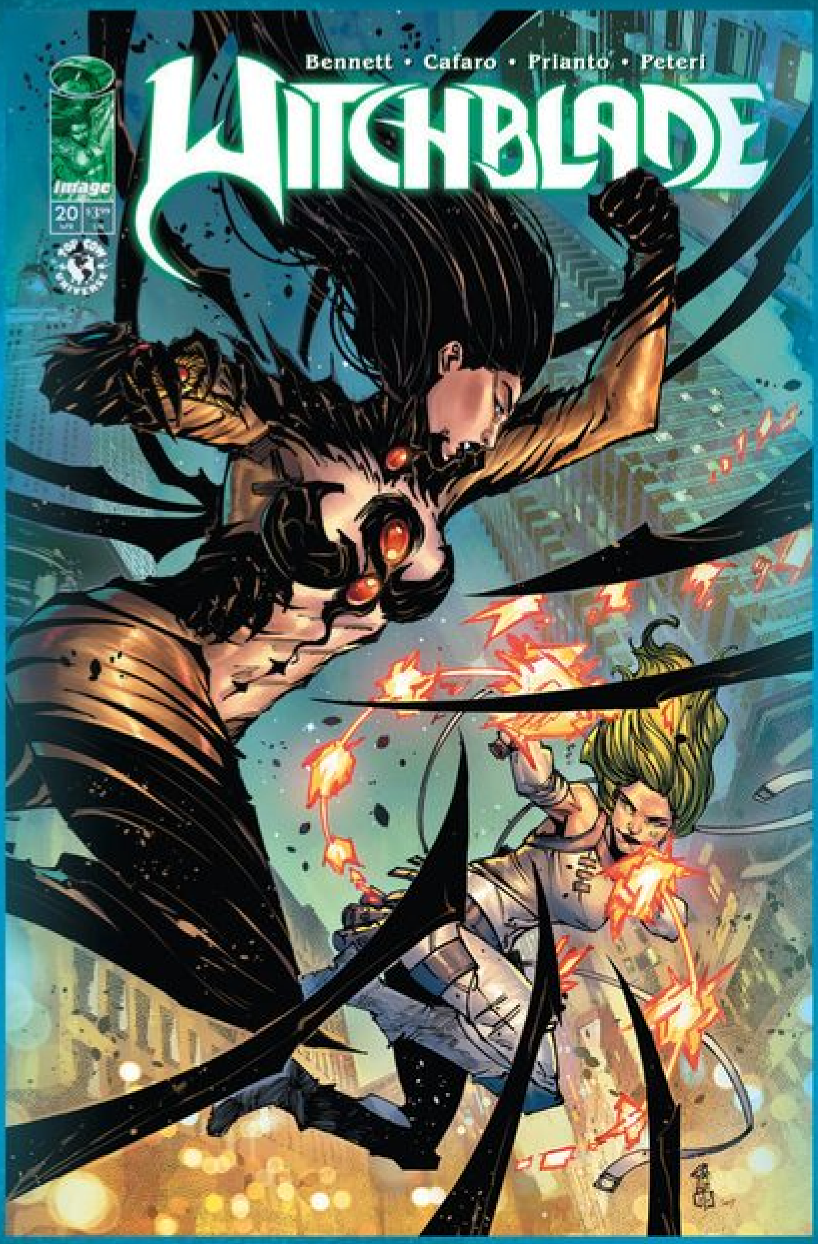
The Darkness
1
image firsts


Bennett • Cafaro • Prianto • Peteri
WITCHBLADE
1
image firsts

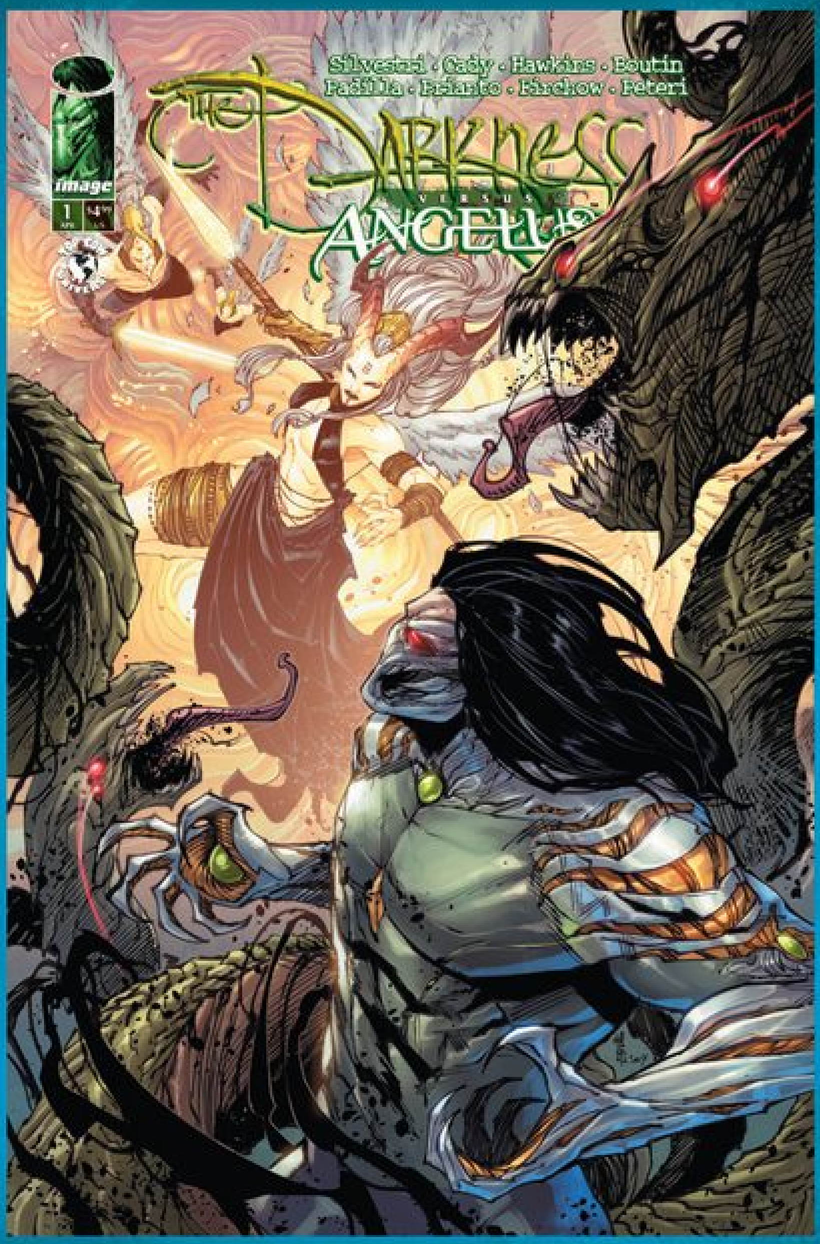
FROM TOP COW IN APRIL!


the Thing on the Doorstep
image
3
BIRKS ROBERTS JONES

The Thing on the Doorstep #3 (of 5)
WRITER: Simon Birks
ARTIST: Willi Roberts
LETTERER: Rob Jones
32 pages · $3.99 · Apr. 8


Bennett · Cafaro · Prianto · Peteri
WITCHBLADE
image
20

Witchblade #20
WRITER: Marguerite Bennett
ARTIST: Giuseppe Cafaro
COLORIST: Arif Prianto
LETTERER: Troy Peteri
32 pages · $3.99 · Apr. 15


Silvestri · Cady · Hawkins · Boutin
Padilla · Prianto · Birchow · Peteri
The Darkness versus Angelus
image
1

The Darkness vs. Angelus [one-shot]
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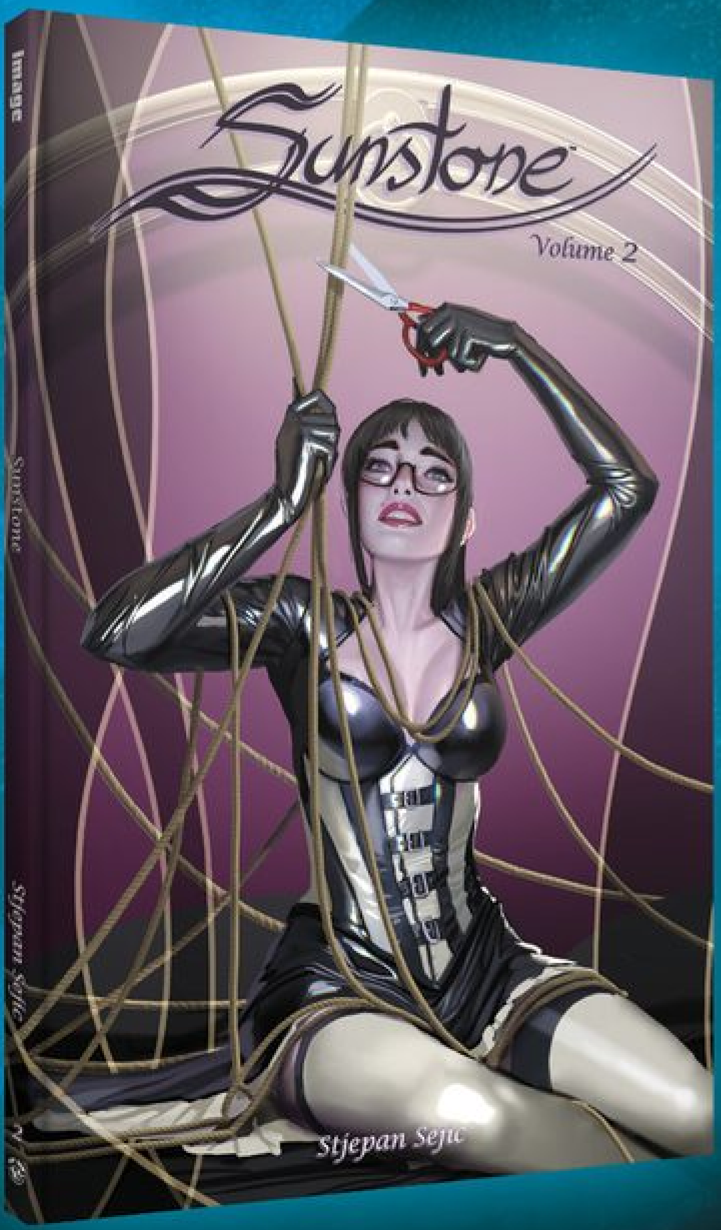
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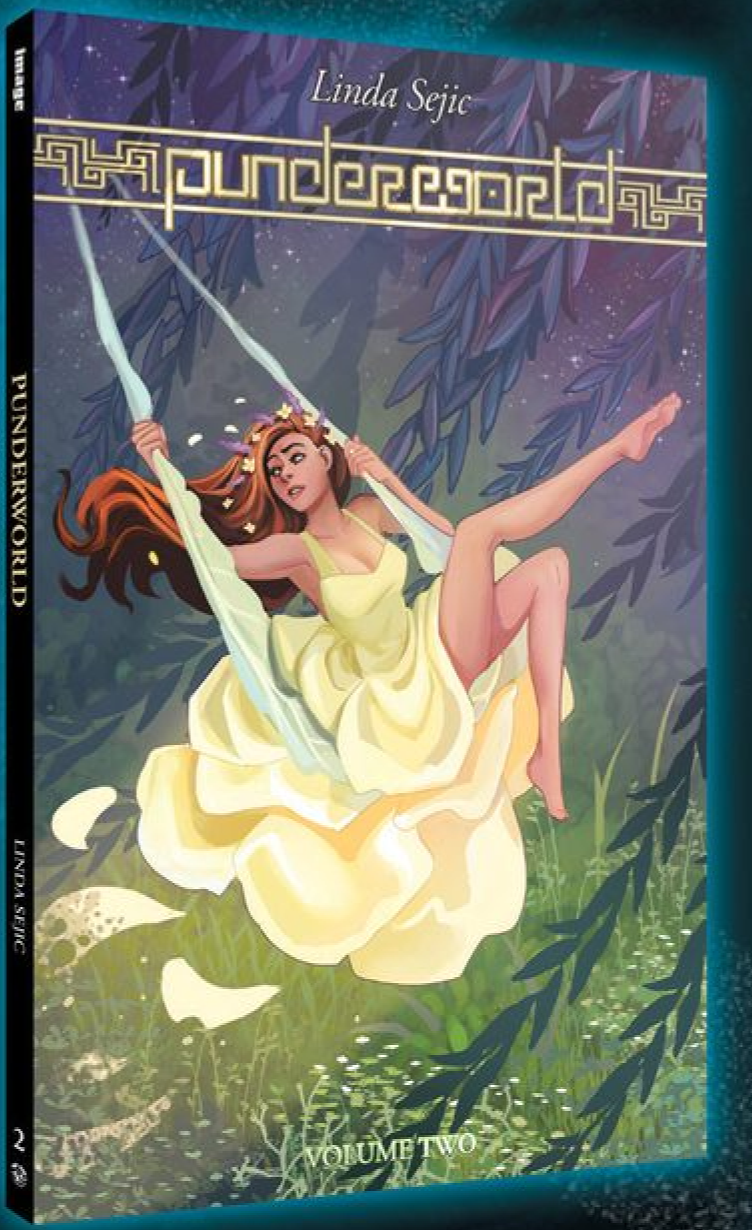
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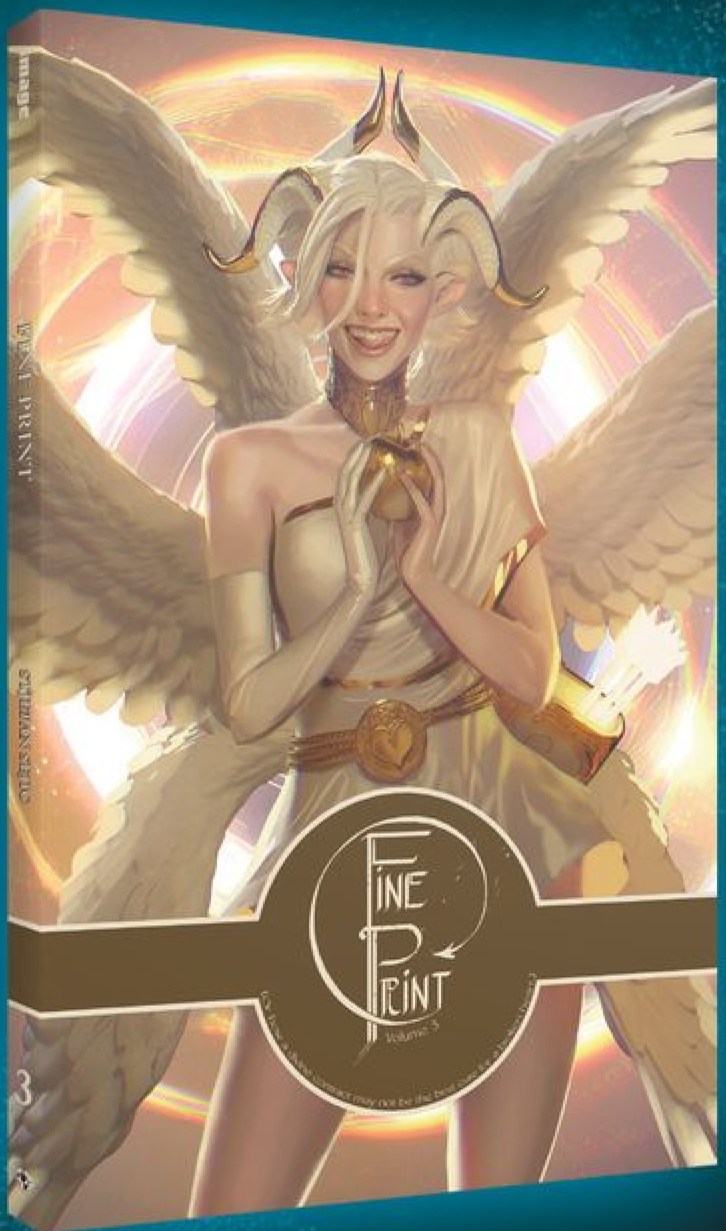
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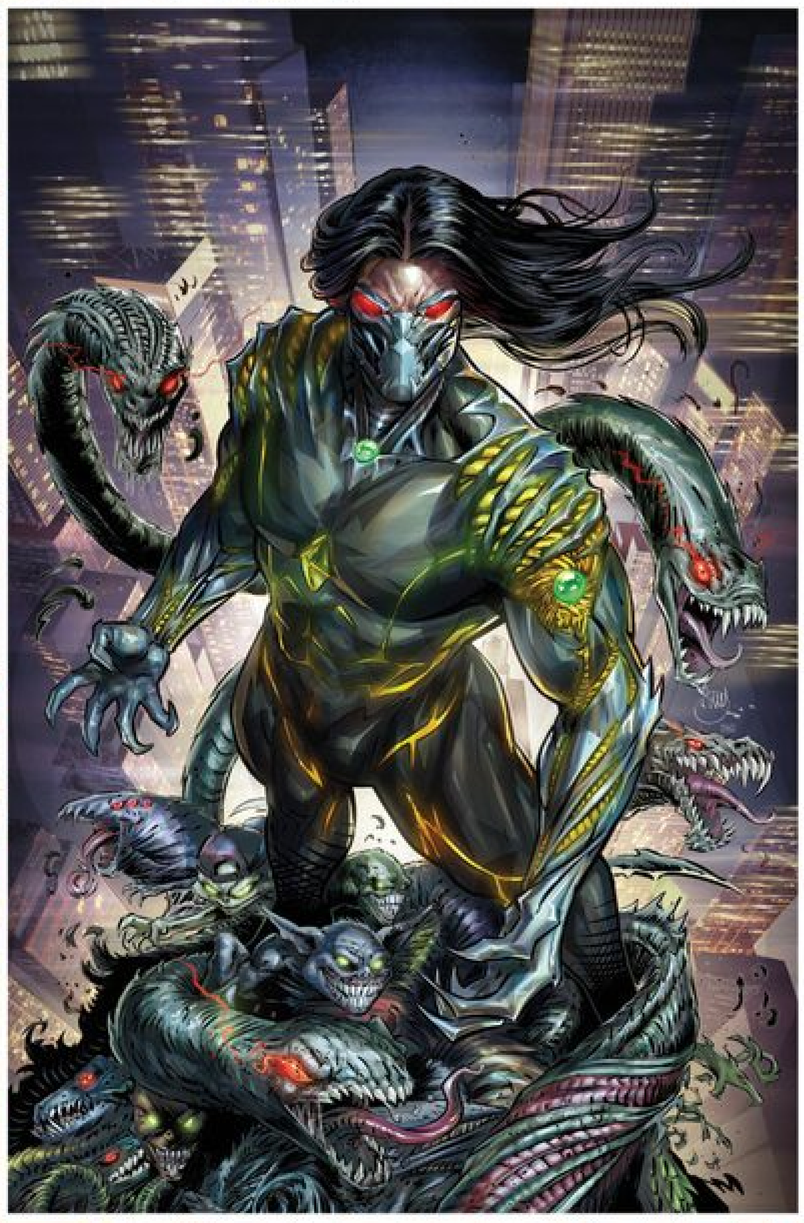

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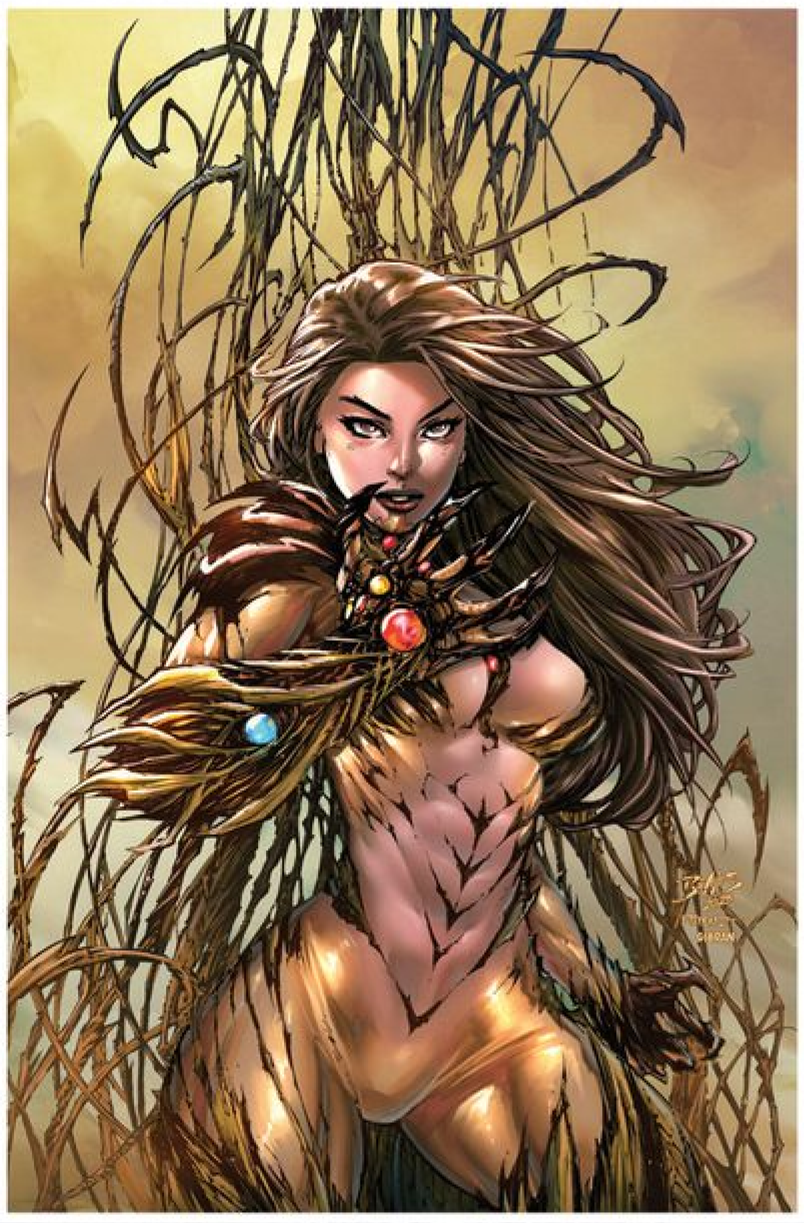

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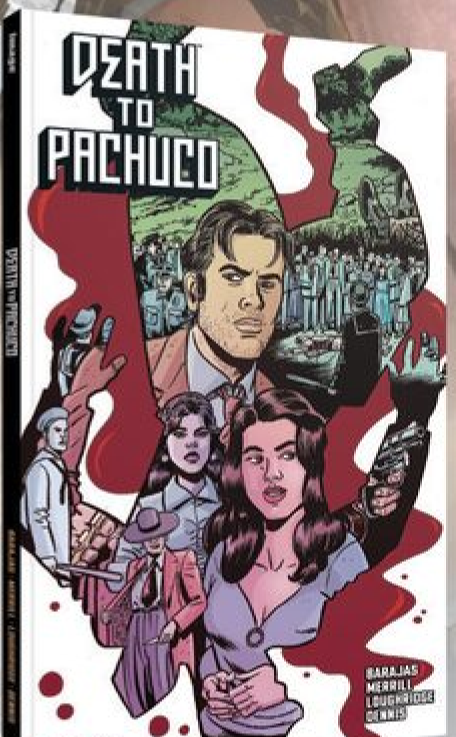

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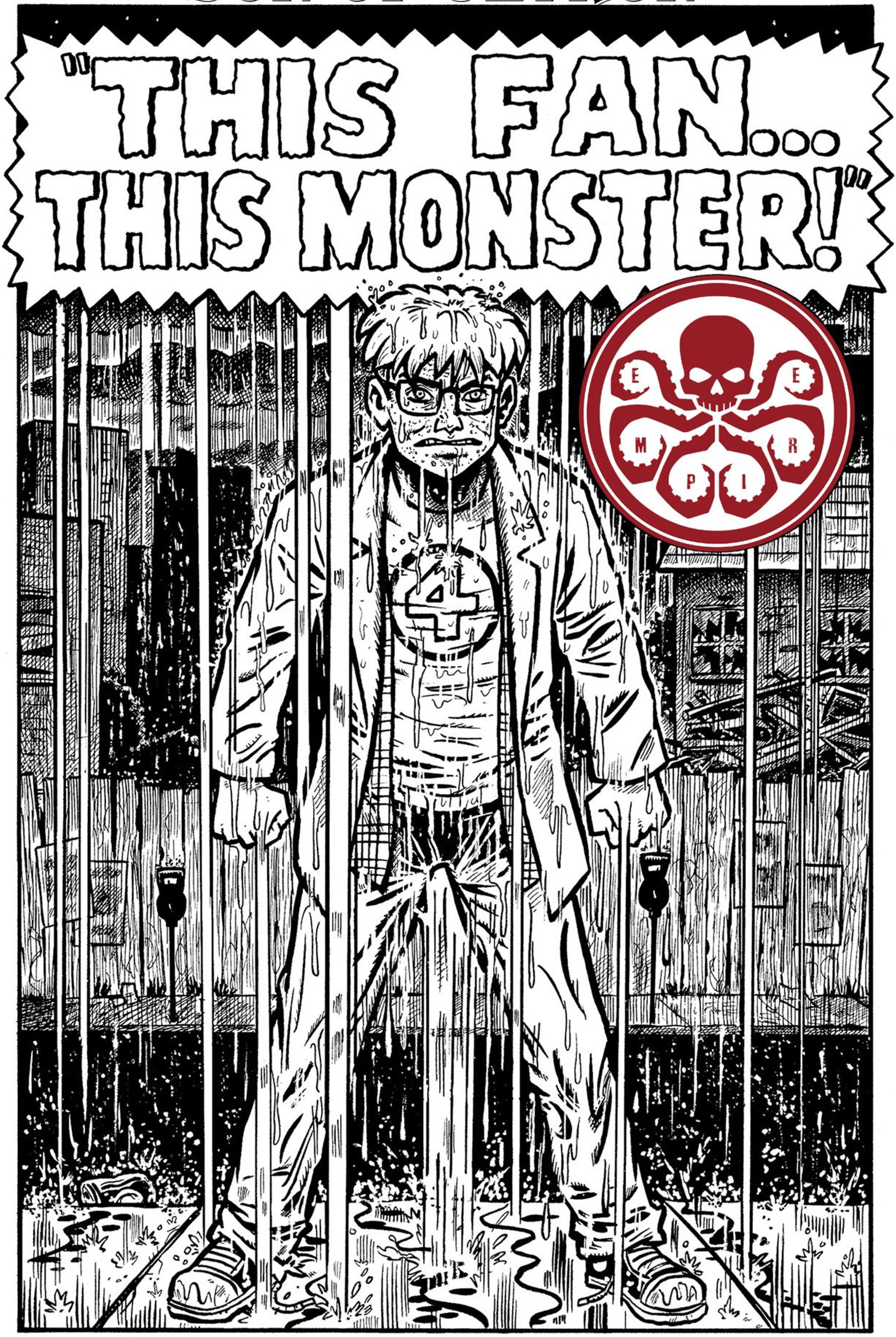
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